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NOV 19 1928

**THE
LIBRARY
JOURNAL**

VOL. 53 NOVEMBER 15, 1928 No. 20

WHAT IS LIBRARY PUBLICITY?

D. A. MacGregor

THE VILLAGE STUDY CLUB

Anna G. Hall

A LIBRARY SURVEY OF THE
NEAR EAST

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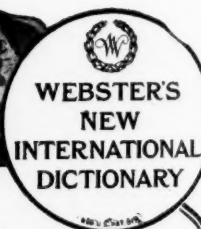
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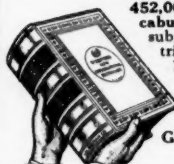


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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

VOLUME 53, No. 20

CONTENTS

NOVEMBER 15, 1928

WHAT IS LIBRARY NEWS by D. A. MacGregor	925
THE VILLAGE STUDY CLUB by Anna Gertrude Hall	931
A LIBRARY SURVEY OF THE NEAR EAST	933
A CALIFORNIA LIBRARY EXHIBIT by Faith Holmes Hyers	935
FIVE HUNDRED BOOKS FOR A HOSPITAL LIBRARY, PART II, selected by Sarah Doris Lamb	937
THOUGHTS ON THE LIBRARY AND ADULT EDUCATION by John Cotton Dana	945
PUBLICATIONS FREE ON REQUEST	946
EDITORIAL NOTES	948
OPPORTUNITIES	949
AMONG LIBRARIANS	950
CURRENT LITERATURE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY	951
ORGANIZATIONS	952
LIBRARY WORK	956

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

• NOVEMBER 15, 1928 •

WHAT IS LIBRARY NEWS?

By D. A. MACGREGOR

Daily Province, Vancouver, B. C.

SOME of you,* I am well aware, know a great deal more about the subject we are to discuss, this afternoon, than I do, and there is more or less presumption, on my part, in laying my views before you. The danger of being thought presumptuous, however, is one which holds no terrors for the seasoned newspaperman. It is many years since Edmund Burke told us that the Fourth Estate was superior to the other three estates together. So, from our lofty seat we praise and commend, we chide and deplore; we tender our advice unasked—and usually unthanked—to presidents and kings, to councillors and mayors, to congresses and parliaments. We are experts in everything—professors, as Carlyle has said, of things in general. So, why not of libraries, and library news, and the relations between libraries and newspapers?

I have been asked to suggest an answer to the question, "What is Library News?" Before a gathering such as this, it is inviting trouble, I know, to attempt to define a library. I have been told that a library is an organized collection of books. I do not know whether this definition is adequate, and I am not concerned with defending it. But if it is adequate, I should like to parallel it and define a newspaper as an organized collection of news. And, in this connection, I should like to draw a parallel between librarians and newspapermen. Let us look at our respective methods for a moment. We select our news as you select your books—from the great mass available. We cannot print all the news. You cannot buy all the books that are printed. We head our news and place it as you catalog and shelve your books. Then, in

ways somewhat different from those you employ in distribution, we see that our news finds its way into the hands of the public. To reach the public is our common end, and some of us, both librarians and newspapermen, are foolish enough to think we can make some impression upon that public. So, you see, we are nearly allied, and should be friends and collaborators.

Several times already, I have used the word "news." What is news? If you can get two newspapermen to agree on the answer, you will have performed a miracle. They sometimes come pretty close to agreeing. But always there are qualifications. As Mr. Einstein might say, news is a question of relativity. It depends on a variety of things, on who is to read it, on whom it affects, on when it is received, on the space available when it is to be printed. It depends on selection, on writing and on emphasis. A good story may be spoiled by treatment. A poor story may be elevated to a place to which it would normally have no right.

Years ago, someone, very hard pressed for a definition of news, sought it in the derivation of the word, and, being unable to find a derivation, invented one. News, he said, is information from the four points of the compass, North-East-West-South, N-E-W-S. Ingenious, no doubt, but artificial and not very happy or informative. News comes from the four points of the compass, of course, and from all points between. And it comes from the heavens above and the earth beneath, and out of the inner consciousness of the competent newspaperman. But what is it?

The London *Times* used to refer to its news as "intelligence," and spoke of "naval intelligence," "French intelligence," "American intelligence" and the like. So far as the *Times*'

* This paper was read at the Pacific Northwest Library Association meeting at Vancouver, Aug. 30-Sept 1.

own news is concerned, it was probably right. But is the stuff in *Lloyd's Weekly* or the New York tabloids "intelligence"? It is news. The papers that carry it sell by the million. Perhaps it would be nearer the mark to refer to news as information. But all information is not news. There is the information one digs up in the reference library, for instance. That is not usually news, tho it may be. This point will be developed later.

I have a vivid recollection of a newspaper office much given to mottoes and slogans, which had a great streamer above the city editor's desk: "News is Only News When It's New; So Hustle Like Hell When You Get It." That was intended, no doubt, to chill the marrow of the cub reporter and speed up his legs. And it had its effect. But it was not strictly true. News does not have to be new. There is an election campaign in progress in the United States. It is largely a campaign of personality—Herbert Hoover's personality rather than his policies against the personality rather than the policies of Al Smith. This makes every scrap of information that will throw light on the character of either of the opposing candidates worth printing. None of this information is new; but all of it is news. If there is an earthquake in Japan or Italy, you will find all the newspapers giving space—even front-page space—to lists of similar disasters, tho these lists have been printed over and over again. Some years ago, an American politician of no great note passed away. The despatch telling of his death—half a dozen lines or so and all the thing was worth—came the way of a political reporter on a large eastern paper. The reporter remembered a convention he had attended four years before at which the man now deceased had played a conspicuous part and had made himself supremely ridiculous. The reporter wrote a column story of the four-year-old convention, and described the scene so graphically that his story won a big head on the front page of his paper. It was news, but it was not new.

News, then, does not have to be new, and you should mark that, because you have on your shelves and in your files a tremendous stock of information that has in it news potentialities. You have the dry bones, but you need something to stir them into life. It is said there is nothing new under the sun. If you have all the old stuff, then, you have all the possibilities of new. All you need is a revivifying agent. That agent you will find in the competent reporter and in an event which will make your information timely. Timeliness is more important than freshness, for timeliness can create freshness.

As the good reporter can make news out of something that is old, so he can make news out

of something that is trivial. But it is necessary to be careful here. There must be selection. Every trivial incident is not good for a news story. It has to have certain basic qualities; and timeliness, of course, plays its part here as elsewhere. The arrival of the first butterfly of the season cannot be regarded as an event of any importance. Yet it is always good for four or five stories in Vancouver. The butterfly is known locally as "Amos," and his appearance in various near-by centres is invariably reported. Similarly, Ogopogo, the Okanagan Lake sea-serpent never shows himself without getting an honorable mention. A leading Canadian news editor told me, some years ago, that he would throw out a political speech any day to make room for a good dog story.

News, then, does not have to be important. But again we must qualify that statement. If the news is important, or about important people, its value is enhanced thereby. One afternoon and evening, last fall, I sat in on the news desk of the *San Francisco Examiner*. It was rather a dull day, and the editors were hard pressed to find a story that would carry a big head for the first street edition. A flash came from Sacramento: a woman found murdered. You should have seen the make-up man brighten. A second flash: the murderer, the victim's lover, captured. More brightness. Then the story. The murdered woman was a chambermaid, the murderer, a local ne'er-do-weel. The whole thing was sordid, mean, ugly. The news editor vetoed the plan for a big head at once. The story was too cheap, he said. But if the victim had only been a society lady, what a splurge there might have been!

Importance in news must not be ignored. But it need not be insisted upon. However, if a story is not important, it must at least, be significant; that is, it must contain some elements of interest to the public.

These elements that give the human touch to news, that set human chords vibrating, are more easily sensed than described. And yet, it is possible to describe some of them. What made the Lindbergh story such great news? Was it the fact that Lindbergh had flown the Atlantic? No. That had been done before. Was it the fact that he was an American? Partly, of course, for it was the American press that set the pitch for the song of acclaim. But other Americans had preceded him, and other nations were not far behind in chronicling the exploit. Lindbergh was youth on a high adventure, a knight-errant of the Twentieth Century. His exploit touched the world's imagination, and that made the story news. Every reader in every country pictured not Charles Lindbergh but himself in that tiny plane on that lonely journey.

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What made the Peaches Browning story fill pages of the newspapers for days? There was no adventure there. No, but there was sex interest, the thing that keeps the movie houses filled and sells millions of copies of the confession magazines.

What made the Hickman case interesting to newspaper readers? Mystery, which always has an appeal, and sudden, violent death, which touches every human being nearly, because every human being knows there is a possibility that he may go that way himself, some day. Imagination again.

Why do newspapers print so much about politics? It is not because the editors really think their readers are vitally interested in the details of good government. They have no such illusions. But they know their readers are interested in the clash of parties and personalities, just as they are interested in dog-fights and prize-fights and horse races and baseball games.

Why did the Vancouver newspapers feature the double victory of Percy Williamson at the Olympic Games more than the San Francisco papers did? Because he was a Vancouver boy and it was our victory as well as his. Why did Vancouver find a greater interest in Kingford-Smith than Seattle did? Because the conqueror of the Pacific went to school with us. Our people knew him. The local interest is an aspect of news that must not be forgotten.

Here, then, you have the qualities that go to the making of news: timeliness and importance or significance, imagination, adventure, sex interest, mystery, violent death, local interest. You will not often find all these elements together, but the more of them you can crowd into a story, and the higher the voltage in them, the greater your news story will be. That is why the Great War provided more and greater news stories than any other series of incidents since the beginning of journalism. All the elements of news were there, and in supreme degree, and the facilities for reporting were unequalled.

News, then, to throw out a loose and suggestive definition, and by no means an ideal one, is timely information of significance to the public. In other words, it is what the public wants to read.

It is possible to express in a short, mathematical formula an explanation that would require pages of literal elaboration. Some facetious newspaperman has set down mathematically all I have been endeavoring to tell you. Perhaps some of his formulae might interest you. They are very simple. For instance: 1 ordinary man + 1 ordinary wife = 0. 1 ordinary man + 1 extraordinary adventure = News. 1 ordinary husband + 1 ordinary wife = 0. 1 husband + 3 wives = News. 1 bank cashier + 1 wife + 7

children = 0. 1 bank cashier - \$10,000 = News. 1 chorus girl + 1 bank president - \$100,000 = News. 1 man + 1 gun + 1 quart = News. 1 man + 1 wife + 1 row + 1 law-suit = News. 1 man + 1 achievement = News. 1 woman + 1 venture or 1 achievement = News. 1 ordinary man + 1 ordinary life of 79 years = 0. 1 ordinary man + 1 ordinary life of 100 years = News.

Now that we have discovered what news is, and why, you want to know what library news is. Of course you realize that one librarian plus three wives, or one librarian plus an extraordinary adventure, or even plus one extraordinary book would be news. But it would not be library news. The news value would not be lessened to any extent if we substituted a plumber or a contractor for the librarian. It might even be enhanced if we substituted a clergyman or a judge. Library news may have to do with the librarian. But it must be in his capacity as an official of the library.

You are interested in library news, not so much because you wish to read the news yourselves as because you wish other people to read it. You are interested in it from the publicity point of view. Like the department store, you wish more patrons. You know the wares you have are worth while, and you wish to place them in the hands of more people. If the result is more work, more prestige and larger salaries for yourselves—well, so much the better. "Oh . . . that mine adversary had written a book," cried the afflicted one of old, and the hope was implied that the enemy would thereby expose a vulnerable flank thru which he might be attacked and destroyed. The enlightened man of today speaks in a different strain. "Would that mine enemy might read a book," he prays, "that he might become intelligent, even as I, and cease to be mine enemy." So the librarian, working in the interests of peace and enlightenment, is eager that the rays of his lamp shall penetrate into places that are now shrouded in darkness, and for aid he turns to the newspapers. Like the department store, he wishes publicity, but, unlike the department store, he is unable to pay for it. So he seeks it for nothing. Perhaps I am unfair to the librarian in that last statement. I have an idea that he would like to give service in return for publicity if he only knew what service would be useful and acceptable.

When I was preparing this paper, I borrowed a number of books on library publicity from Mr. Robinson, and in several of these I found quite a course for librarians in the theory and practice of wheedling newspaper space out of helpless city editors. The librarian is advised to make the acquaintance of the city editor and

enquire of him what sort of news he would like from the library, when he would like it and how he would like it written. He is urged to write newspaper style when he writes a news item, and to follow a lot of elementary rules about margins, spacing, top-spacing, heads and the like. Now this is all very fine. But busy city editors are sometimes not quite civil to people who go to them with foolish queries as to what sort of news they want and when they want it, and how it should be written. They are about the least helpless of any class of men you will find, and the most resourceful. Every man's hand is against them. From governors and statesmen and society ladies with pet theories and charities to aldermen and crooks and common citizens—to say nothing of cub reporters—everybody is trying all the time to put something over on them. So, they grow a defensive armor. If there is anything they dislike it is propaganda. If there is anything for which they have a weakness it is news—real news. If your publicity, then, takes the form of propaganda, there is no use bringing it to the city editor, no matter how it is written. His business is to print news. He has no space for all the news he would like to print, and is, therefore, quite unlikely to make a concession in favor of something that is not news. If, on the other hand, your publicity takes the form of news, the would-be ogre is jarred out of his position of opposition at once. And if it is news of high quality, he has no choice. He must use it.

My advice to librarians in this connection would be not to waste much time studying city editors, but to spend a great deal of time studying their libraries as sources of news. Become acquainted with the city editor, by all means. You will find him a very human chap, considering his few advantages, and some day, when you want something kept out of the paper—something about 1 librarian plus 1 policeman plus 1 broken traffic regulation—it may be an advantage to have a friend at court.

But however much I become acquainted with the city editor I should not beg him to print anything for me. I should make him do it. If you can make your library a source of news in the same sense that the police court or the city hall or the principal hotel are sources of news, you will not have to wheedle space from anyone or put the proper margin on your copy. You will not be able to keep the reporters away. You will be called upon and importuned for news. The news will be written for you, too,—and not always, perhaps, to your liking. But still your library will be kept prominently before the public; you will have accomplished your pur-

pose, and you will have preserved your self respect.

A little while back, I suggested the elements that go to make a news story, and stated that the more of these elements a story contained, the greater the story would be. Now, I am sorry to have to say it, but I do not think many great news stories are likely to come from libraries. Once in a while, you may produce something that will call for front page space. But it will be only once in a while. If the Vancouver Library Board could persuade the City Council of the necessity of building an adequate new library and of embarking on an aggressive library policy, every paper in the city, I am sure, would be delighted to feature the story. But there isn't any hope.

However, librarians need not be discouraged because they cannot produce much great news. It is the exceptional news source that does. A very small proportion of the news printed is great news. The remainder is average or lower. But it is worth printing, all the same, and it is read and has its effect. If you get into that class fairly often, you will be doing very well.

What have you, then, in your libraries, of information that is timely and significant to the public? Let us take the most obvious things first. Your libraries are public institutions. The public pays their bills, and that very fact should give significance to what goes on in them. There is news in your board meetings, if your board is alive. But if it never does anything you cannot expect the papers to print much about it. There is news in the formulation and altering of policies, for policies affect the public. If you are expanding, getting new buildings, making alterations in old ones, adding new departments or branches, there is news there. As your staff comes into contact with the public, there is news whenever its personnel changes.

Of library routine, I am not so sure. It is probably intensely interesting to librarians, but not very significant to the public, I am afraid. But a great deal depends upon how the story is written. There are phases of library routine that have in them the making of real news stories and excellent feature articles. You make reports, of course, and have statistics. But statistics have little interest for the average reader. Can you not interpret the figures, find a feature in them? Do they tell you a story or are they only rows of numbers? If they have a story in them, point this out to the reporter who calls on you. If he can find some human interest in the report, it will be worth a wilderness of figures to him and to you and to the public. You have book lists, and some papers will publish them for you. I admit they have a value and an interest for a great many people.

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But the average reader passes them up. If, however, you can embody them in a story, or lead them with a story that will carry a news head and act as sugar-coating, more people will swallow your pill. You have binderies and book hospitals. These might form the basis of a feature story. Are your books ever mutilated? Who does it? How? What is the nature of his mutilations? How do you repair the damage? Do you ever catch the culprit? You have all the framework of a detective novel right there. Why not develop it?

The reference library, it seems to one standing on the side-lines, should furnish almost a constant stream of news stories. If as many foolish questions come to the reference librarian's desk as to a newspaper office—and there should be more, because the newspapers send some of theirs on to you—there is the making of a story right there. But I admit you will have to exercise care, or you will give offense. There must be seasonal demands for information, too, that would be worth following up.

There is news, also, in seasonal and other insistent demands upon your lending library. If you can tell the public about these demands, and about how you attempt to satisfy them, you can probably develop and guide them. The auto touring season suggests a line of books on travel. Circus week suggests animal stories; hot weather, books on the Arctic. When an author dies or comes to town or wins the Nobel prize, link up the library with him. When civic problems are under discussion, tie up the library with the attempt to solve them. When a grand opera season is on, or a gardening campaign, or a town planning movement, or the celebration of an historical event, a discussion of books dealing with these subjects is news.

The adult education movement is very much in the public eye, just now, and libraries in search of avenues of service are getting into step with it. The library's alliance with this great movement should yield news stories almost constantly.

Then, there is the librarian's stock-in-trade, books. They are full of news. People are interested in books. How else do you account for the fact that newspapers, which strive not to print uninteresting matter, devote large space to book reviews? They are not paid for this space. On the contrary, they pay for the writing of the reviews—when they can't get the work done for nothing. Here in the West, they get little or no advertising from the publishers, and quite frequently they even have to buy the books they review.

When Dickens published his *Old Curiosity Shop*, it came out, as you know, in parts, and

it is said that, preceding the morning of the publication of the final part, people walked the streets of English cities all night. Little Nell had become so real a character to them and had so entered into their lives that they wanted news of her. When Soames Forsyte died, the other day—he who started out as the villain in Galsworthy's double saga, and became the hero—not a few newspapers published his obituary as tho he had been a real person. Listen to this from the *London Observer*:—

"Soames Forsyte is dead! His dust is mingled with that of Falstaff and Tom Jones and Mr. Micawber and W. G. Grace and the Duke of Wellington—creatures so national, so typical, so essential, that nobody pauses to remember whether this one or that of them came to birth in an epic or an epoch. . . . Conventional to the last, Soames has given his life to save his beloved daughter, just like those fellows in the novels that he would have most despised. . . . Tenacious, he can hold no longer: sensitive, he descends to senseless earth. It is the close of a saga and of an era. This is one of those departures that take away from diurnal business, and alter the very color of the fields."

That is as much news as the obituary of Lord Haldane or Colonel George Harvey. Perhaps, too, you remember how much news there was in *Trader Horn*, news in the book, news in the author, news in the getting and the writing of the story.

Biographical works, if they have any value at all, are sure to bring out in a striking way points in the character of the subject imperfectly realized by the public. Take Queen Victoria's letters. To the people of 1927, the queen was either the idol of other days or the frowsy old frump who gave her name to the Victorian era. The letters showed her every inch a woman and a queen. They were news.

But it is not only new books that contain news. Old ones have their quota. Libraries are the repositories of ideas, and in the clash of ideas there is news. Librarians, as I stated a little while ago, have in their files and on their shelves much of the stuff of which news is made. For a great deal of the news we read is made—it doesn't just happen. I am not referring to faking, of course. A fake, no matter how elaborate, is never anything more than a fake. But made news is just as legitimate as news that makes itself, and it may be quite as valuable, tho it is not likely to be as sensational. Let me give you an example of how a library contributed to the making of an important news story.

In the fall of 1926, an Imperial Conference

was held in London. The British government was represented, and the governments of all the British dominions. It was, in some degree, a family council. The Dominions were growing up. They had questions of status to discuss with the Mother Country. And there was quite a serious dispute over the Pacific Cable. In this cable, Australia, New Zealand, Great Britain and Canada were partners. The venture had been a losing one at first. Then it had developed into a great financial success. Canada wished the dividends to be used to make good the losses of the earlier years. The other partners thought they saw an opportunity to expand. They would lay another beside the first and double their profits. Canada objected, pointing to the probable development of wireless. The other governments persisted, and Canada refused to allow them to land the new cable on her shores. The Imperial Conference took up the question behind closed doors. No newspapermen were admitted and only very meagre summaries were given out. There were several Canadian newspapermen in London for the conference. But on the day when the Pacific Cable question came up, Tom Wayling, representing the *Toronto Star* and some other papers, scored a distinct beat. He had an elaborate and detailed story. The others had scarcely anything. Some weeks later, I met Wayling in Ottawa and asked him, "How did you get that exclusive story?" "I didn't get it," he answered, "I made it." "Made it? How? Where?" I asked. "Right here in the Parliamentary Library," said Wayling. "I dug up all the documents touching the cable question. I sifted the matter to the last detail and had it all at my fingers' ends before I left Ottawa. I went to England on the same steamer as the prime minister. I had a talk with him and learned what he was going to ask for. When the day's conference was over, I met the prime minister in the hall and asked him, 'Is everything satisfactory?' he answered, 'Everything.' That one word told me all I needed to know. I had found out the rest for myself. I went to my room and wrote my story."

Just a word, now, about what may happen to your news when it gets to the city editor's desk. Don't be discouraged if your stories are left out of the paper, whether you write them yourself or whether you give them to a reporter. News, as I have said, is relative. The newspaperman must select. Circumstances and the exigencies of space make him a censor, and he is often helpless in their hands. Do you remember that hectic day, during the war, when news drifted in of the battle of Jutland and the drowning of Kitchener and the death of Yuan Shih Kai, the Chinese dictator? What chance had a library

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

story on such a day? Also, don't be discouraged if your copy is manhandled. Every copy reader and city editor has his own ideas of how a story should be presented, and they do not coincide with those of any other person on earth. I have been writing copy for twenty-five years. Yet the city desk has no more respect for my stuff today than it had twenty-five years ago.

If you cannot get long stories into the newspapers, don't disdain short ones. The chances are that more people will read them if they are short. A publicity expert has estimated that free newspaper publicity is worth a dollar a line. So whatever you get is pure gain. Remember newspapers are rapidly written and more rapidly read. Walter Lippmann of the *New York World* sent out a questionnaire some years ago, asking people how much time they devoted to reading newspapers. About five thousand replied, and between seventy and seventy-five per cent of these admitted that they spent as much as a quarter of an hour a day. Your library news will have to be short to be read at all by those who read as they run.

Last of all, keep everlastingly at it. Don't let either the people or the newspapers forget you. If you have no news, make some. You have the material. There are three hundred and sixty-five days in the year. Some of you people have crossed the continent, five days from coast to coast. You made the journey in that time, because your motive power was applied every day and all day. Publicity is the motive power of business, and the library business is no different from others. Don't take your motive power off. How far would you have got on your transcontinental trip if you had unhooked your locomotive after the first day out and had depended on the momentum you had gained?

LIBRARY BOOK POST

BOUND magazines are not mailable as books at the reduced postage rates provided by Section 444½ Postal Laws and Regulations, unless all advertisements, except "incidental announcements of books," have been removed.

The A. L. A. Committee on Federal and State Relations wishes to know how seriously this ruling will affect American libraries. The Committee is now concerned with other urgent matters and does not wish to open a campaign for the revision of this postal law unless it is of importance to a considerable number of libraries. Those concerned will please address Mr. Ralph Munn, chairman, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

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THE VILLAGE STUDY CLUB

BY ANNA GERTRUDE HALL

Box 383, Davis, Calif.*

"THERE was a study club here several years ago," I said, "What became of it?"

"It died—killed by the papers we had to write and listen to," was the prompt response. "No one liked to write papers, and none of us liked to listen to what others had written. It was all just too deadly."

Not always was the reply so prompt or so definite, but thru twelve years of public library service, I have had cause to ask the question many times, and have sifted the answers and found always the same small truth at the bottom of the pile. There is no doubt that the very small village or rural club presents a problem quite different from that of the city club, or of any club composed of women of leisure. The community, or civic club in the rural community is often active and useful, but the study club is also needed, and lies particularly in the province of the librarian with an interest in adult education.

Women living in small villages, or in farm communities, need some form of group study planned particularly to meet their needs. As a rule, they have large families, little or no domestic help, and few household conveniences. Their mental environment is practical and monotonous. Its practicality stimulates them to the point of being critical of the performance of their friends and of themselves, while its monotony dulls the probability of their making their own performances interesting. To write a successful paper on any subject, however simple, means time to digest a variety of material on that subject, and the mental freshness and vigor to restate that material in an individual and lively manner. To try to make interesting club meetings with papers written under the conditions in the average village and farm home is discouraging and often fatal to the life of the club. The most interesting topic of the year is often killed by the dulllest treatment, and the continuity of the most carefully devised outline is likely to be broken by a dozen different calamities.

In spite of the sweep of general sentiment in favor of the civic, or village improvement, club, there is still a distinct need in rural communi-

ties for small study, or reading groups, which under thoughtful direction can carry out a genuine program in adult education. The objectives of such groups are undoubtedly the same as those of any more formal educational organization, but the emphasis should be differently placed. The first objective of the rural group should be toward that old-fashioned term inspiration, the lifting of the mind from a monotonous daily circumstance and from an intensely personal social environment. The impact of a great, or an original, personality is needed, either as teacher and leader, or as author to be studied. The actual acquisition of new facts or new ideas, while still an objective, lies farther down on the scale than in most educational programs, while close to the inspirational feature lies the social, which might be labeled Community of Idea, the sharing of new ideas or experiences until they become common to the group. Mental discipline, the practice of orderly thinking, is also an objective, but one to be obtained at first by indirect and painless means.

As a rule the small club cannot obtain outside speakers or leaders, and falls back upon the time-worn "study outline" with an arsenal of references to books of college grade, and with a stalwart selection of topics for "papers." A few outlines have courageously selected a basic text book, often too advanced in grade for the ordinary small group, and usually consistently neglected by all but a few club members. The objection to both these outline schemes lies in the fact that the club group is an ungraded group, with education and comprehension capacity in almost infinite variety. The impulse that draws them together is far more social than intellectual, and this social impulse must be seized and sublimated if the group study is to mean anything at all. A problem in adult education, but for an ungraded group, and often an indifferent or frivolous group.

To many librarians it seems a group too informal, too frivolous, to deserve serious consideration at all. Yet successful experiment has convinced me that such groups can be led to serious study, provided their needs and limitations are considered and their work outlined in a mental grade open to all and interesting to all. They must not be taken too seriously, and most study outlines do take them too seriously, nor must they be left to their own devices, lest

* Miss Hall, who has been librarian of the Umatilla County Library, Pendleton, Ore., and organizer of the Library Extension division of University of the State of New York, has been in California completing her convalescence after several months' illness.

they become merely gossiping sewing circles or bigger and better bridge clubs.

After many false starts, due to the vagueness of my own ideas in beginning, and some mistakes in selecting the proper books for certain groups, we succeeded in Umatilla County, Oregon, in carrying out a new plan often enough to make it seem practical under many varying conditions. In brief, the plan consists in giving a club one book to be read aloud chapter by chapter at its meetings, with supplementary or illustrative material of various grades of difficulty to develop further the ideas advanced by the author. The first factor for the success of this plan is undoubtedly the selection of the right book for the group. It should emphatically not be a text book, or a treatise. It should be a book interesting in style as well as subject matter, preferably with a direct appeal for women, and written by a person whom they can admire. Candace Wheeler's *Yesterdays in a Busy Life* is an excellent beginning book. One of our most successful groups began with it, and others have used it. In making the outline, we began with the second chapter where Mrs. Wheeler's actual narrative of her life begins, leaving the first chapter for the concluding meeting of the year in order to end with the point that life can be useful and interesting with home as its center.

The apparent triviality of our method can be well illustrated by this one book. For each chapter we devised illustrative material of such varying degrees of difficulty that everyone in the club from the woman who could not open her mouth in public to the cultured, much traveled college graduate had something to do. The club committee designated the reader for each chapter, and saw that she had the book long enough before the meeting to become thoroly familiar with her chapter and to practice reading it aloud. The assignments of illustrative material were often so simple as to seem absurd to the usual maker of outlines. The chapter about Bryant and the life at Roslyn was illustrated by a simple outline of the facts of the poet's life and the reading of "To a Waterfowl." The chapter which mentioned Peter Cooper was supplemented by a review of a magazine article describing the work of the Cooper Union. When Anders Zorn was mentioned an inarticulate member passed around art magazines with copies of some of his pictures. The mention of the anti-renters called for a reading from one of Irving Bacheller's novels describing the anti-rent troubles in Schoharie County. During the year Mrs. Wheeler's other books *Content in a Garden* and *Interior Decoration* were reviewed. A few topics called for more effort, but the larger number were calculated merely to arouse

interest without imposing a burden of work on anyone. The end of the year found an enthusiastic group ready for something a little more difficult.

Another good beginning book for such a group is Princess Kartini's *Letters of a Javanese Princess*. Supplementary material on Java can be easily supplied, while the club enjoys the charm and independence and nobility of character of this modern woman in an ancient civilization. Another group enjoyed Gamaliel Bradford's *Portraits of American Women* and *Wives*, reading a chapter at each meeting, supplemented by a brief paper giving the biographical facts concerning the subject of the chapter.

The second book selected by the group who began with Mrs. Wheeler's book, was John Burroughs' *Ways of Nature*, which had already been used as a first book by another group, who had selected it themselves from a number of suggested titles. The outline for this was made by the first assistant in the Library, and was a clever mingling of difficult and simple assignments. Thomson's *Outline of Science* was just out at the time, and liberal use was made of chapters illustrative of ideas in "Ways of Nature," these chapters being summarized, not read.

It is to be noted that in these outlines already mentioned, the book of fact, the outline, or text book, is used as supplementary material, while the basic book is one that might be called "delightful reading" to use Mr. Strohm's phrase. This plan is consistent with our contention that inspiration and pleasure come far ahead of the acquisition of fact in our list of objectives. These beginning outlines are also marked by very short programs. The social impulse has assembled our groups, and we cannot afford to bury the social side of our meeting in too much program. As interest increases and the purpose of the meeting gradually swings to more intellectual aims, the programs may be longer and the material much more difficult.

This was clearly shown when the group we are following made their third year's choice. From a considerable list of books submitted with suggested outlines, they chose Branson's *Farm Life Abroad*, altho warned that it was harder than anything they had tried before. In fact, its difficulty seemed to be the feature that won the vote, and this from a club that a few years before had been threatened with division and secession over the question of study program or no study program.

Farm Life Abroad presents several difficulties, but the main one is that of length. It is really too long for a club year of fourteen meetings, even when much of the material is summarized instead of being read. Much of the subject

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matter called for papers or reviews of books on topics such as rural education, co-operation in agriculture, community organization. Easier topics were Hans Christian Andersen, Bishop Grundtvig, and readings from books mentioned by the author. The Library even supplied mounted pictures of scenes of rural life in Denmark, France and Germany, which the timid members distributed and collected at the proper times. The great advantage of Professor Branson's book for a country community is that it stimulates discussion. Altho written for North Carolina farmers, it is still pertinent to many problems in eastern Oregon, where wheat instead of cotton has long been the "one-crop" in the greater part of the district.

The next year, the club, altho a little breathless from hurrying thru so many long chapters, decided to stay with the one-book plan, and chose, unanimously, of its own initiative, O'Shea's *The Child, its Nature and its Needs*, and was given the outline prepared for the book by the American Council of Parents and Teachers. This year on the suggestion of the state librarian, they are taking up *Economic Problems of Modern Life* by Patterson and Scholz, a truly ambitious undertaking, for the book is

a college text book in economics, and while more interesting than the average text book, is long and written in rather heavy style. It has twenty-seven chapters and fully six hundred pages of text, so that it must all be summarized rather than read. The outline for the year, besides covering the book, has supplementary papers on such topics as "Primitive Technology of Production," "Blue Sky Laws," "Operation of the Dawes Reparation Plan," "President Wilson's First and Second Industrial Conferences."

A rather difficult program for busy women, but I have no doubt they will put it thru, for they have come thru a fairly well graded course of study, and have had practice in conquering the contents of one book each year. Not every club advances so rapidly, but not every club has such a nucleus of intelligent and enthusiastic members. There are many clubs, however, where latent ability is waiting only to have its interest aroused, and where timid souls are needing to gain confidence in their own powers by the conquest of tasks within their range. A carefully chosen book, read aloud, with simple reviews and summarizings of collateral material would seem to solve their problem.

A LIBRARY SURVEY OF THE NEAR EAST

IN THE spring and early summer of 1927 the American institutions in Egypt, Syria, Turkey, Palestine and Greece were visited by Florence Wilson representing the European Centre of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, with the purpose of advising in the administration of their libraries, and to aid in bringing their library collections up to date. The possibility of organizing International Relations Clubs and International Mind Alcoves was considered at the same time. Findings and recommendations appear in her *Near East Educational Survey* published for the European Centre of the Endowment by the Hogarth Press (pap. 107p.).

The most of the institutions surveyed have inadequate libraries, those in charge of them are keenly alive to the necessity of organizing and developing them according to American library technique. These libraries would eventually serve not only as a necessary laboratory for the college courses and as reading rooms for the communities surrounding the colleges, but as models for future library development. All the libraries require trained librarians, and Miss Wilson frequently emphasizes the desirability of sending native graduates to an American library school. If the Paris Library School

is continued the cost should not be great. Books, library buildings, and small sums for equipment are needed. Aid in administration may be given by sending a visiting librarian from time to time from the Endowment, and by answering questions from the Endowment in Paris. This work could suitably be combined with the organization of the International Relations Club and the International Mind Alcove. There is no doubt that this first official visit made by Miss Wilson's has served to stimulate library development, and the advantage thus gained should be followed up.

It seems apparent that the Club and Alcove have not only a great contribution to make, but also meet one of the most immediate needs. The people of the Near East, for centuries held in restraint by despotic rulers and the domination of foreign governments, and without educational facilities, need, as a preparation for their new democracies and to combat a rather violent nationalism, a knowledge of international affairs, writes Miss Wilson. Owing to special government regulations and special language requirements, the school courses are surcharged and cannot include sufficient instruction in history and political science. The people are keenly interested in politics, and need to be

guided in their discussions and to be provided with books and information.

TURKEY

The most suitable institutions in Turkey for a deposit of an International Mind Alcove are Robert College, Bebek, Constantinople; American Academy for Girls, Scutari; the Y. W. C. A. centre near the Turkish University, Stamboul; the American School for Boys in Talas in the interior of Turkey; and the International College in Smyrna. The word "club" is in bad repute in Turkey, since formerly all clubs were political in aim and character. Now organization of any kind is avoided. The discovery of a Bolshevik Club led to such severe punishment for the students of the Turkish University that there is great unwillingness to run a similar danger again. Altho an International Relations Club is much needed, and it is thought would meet with a response from the students, it would be difficult to organize a club in the University at the present time. Altho the name club cannot be used, there could be weekly and bi-weekly meetings organized for the discussion of international affairs. Robert College would be the most suitable place for this. The student body is international in character, twenty-two nationalities being represented. The old Oriental education has taught students outside the foreign schools to memorize rather than to think. One of the greatest problems is to correct this tendency. To teach students to read and to create a taste for reading is the most certain cure.

Robert College, founded in 1860 by Christopher Rheinlander Robert, has 24,000 volumes, very inadequately housed in Albert Long Hall. It must provide for 758 students in addition to 90 members of the faculty. The staff is composed of a librarian and an assistant, and the librarian, altho without library training, has followed American library technique. A new building, a trained cataloger, and more reference books are needed.

Altho the library of the Constantinople Women's College is more attractively housed than any of the other colleges, a stackroom is needed, and a new building is recommended. It has about 10,000 books and provides for about 265 students as well as for the instructors.

The University Library is in a large old building in Stamboul. There are approximately 120,000 volumes, including 10,000 Arabic, Turkish, and Persian manuscripts. About 15,000 books are added annually, a large proportion of which are in French, and go to the departmental libraries over which the librarian assumes no control. The librarian, M. Edhem, is a graduate of the Paris Library School. The staff is composed of twelve persons, five of them employed in library work. The catalogs, on

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

cards, include a dictionary catalog for books in the western languages, an author catalog for Turkish books, and a classed catalog for all languages. All the librarians are at work on a general catalog, one of manuscripts, and one of printed books.

Public libraries are being organized by the process of assembling in various centres the collection of books from mosques and various places. The Sulamanie Library in the former Medresseh (school) of the Suliman Mosque comprises a courtyard surrounded by an arcade and small cell rooms formerly used for students. In each small room is a library, and a larger room is used as reading-room. There are twenty-five small libraries and twelve librarians. These so-called public libraries are composed mostly of old books and manuscripts (printed books in Turkish dating only 150 years back), and the readers are mostly Hodjas. There are other libraries of this kind, e.g. "Bibliothèque Millet," and the "National Library and Bibliothèque Publique of Bayazid."

GREECE

Greece needs a long period of peace to assimilate its added territory and increased population. The Greek school system is "based on the old Bavarian plan, which requires too many hours for instruction and recitation." It is complicated and out of date, and there have been few changes made since the war. The higher education is more satisfactory than that of primary grade. The foreign schools are affected by the system of education followed by the government schools. They must conform as nearly as possible in order that they may be recognized.

Both the Athens College, organized only three years ago, and administered by an American president who took office in the autumn of 1927, and the American College for Girls, Old Phaleron, Athens, under the American Board of Foreign Missions, would welcome an International Mind Alcove. The library of the latter institution was destroyed with the college buildings in the Smyrna fire in 1922, but it has since assembled about 2,000 volumes. There are about as many volumes in the library of the Thessalonica Agricultural and Industrial Institute at Salonica and of the American College, a continuation of Anatolia College founded in Marsovan, Turkey, in 1886. The Institute is in special need of a building, which might be provided for \$5,000, and all need books, money for equipment, and scholarships to provide for trained librarians.

Notes on Miss Wilson's observations in Palestine, Egypt and Syria will appear in a later number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

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A CALIFORNIA LIBRARY EXHIBIT

BY FAITH HOLMES HYERS

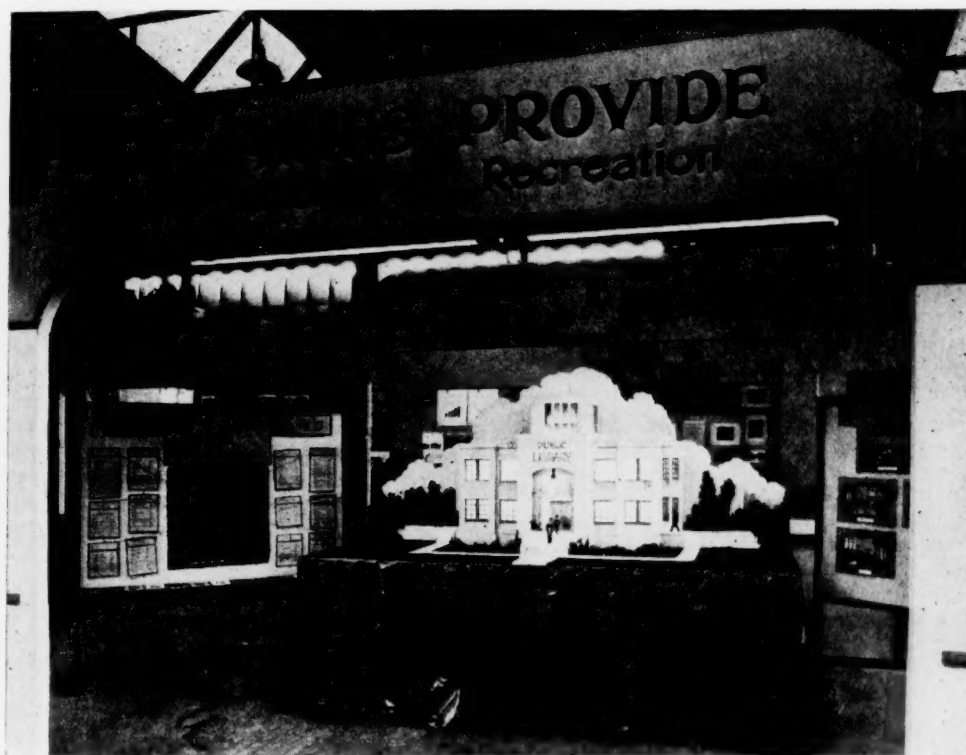
Publicity Editor of the Los Angeles Public Library

THE California Library Association responded to an invitation to hold a library exhibit at the miniature "world's fair," the Pacific-Southwest Exposition, held at Long Beach, during last summer. The fair held much of interest for the tourist and indeed much information for the Californian. From the moment one entered the arched gateway, a sense of old-world quiet prevailed. The walled garden might have been transplanted from Spain with Moorish domes and minaret towers shutting out the prosaic everyday world.

Centrally located was the Educational Building where the library booth was given space. Certainly no one could walk thru this building devoted to the directing of the youth of our State from kindergarten to college without gaining respect and a degree of understanding of modern educational methods. From the remarkable artistic creations of the pre-school child to the vocational work of the junior high

schools, each step of progress was graphically presented. A girls' class in secretarial work was actually held every afternoon as an exhibit, and a boys' printing shop in full force turned out specimens of junior high school printed material for the benefit of the visitors.

A miniature fair in itself, many exhibits consisted of miniature models worked out in remarkable detail and effectiveness. The Playground and Recreation Department displayed each of its numerous activities thru tiny inch high figures engaged in swimming, sliding, playing tennis, baseball and basketball. The question before the Library Committee was how to present the idea of library service strikingly and in a manner calculated to draw instant attention from the moving crowd. A model library was decided upon as the first requisite. Presentation of people and books came next. Would it be possible to show the types of people who use a library entering the building without books



A STUCCO MODEL WITH MINIATURE MOVING FIGURES SEIZED THE PUBLIC'S ATTENTION

and emerging from the door carrying books suited to their types? Could this be done with an adequate model and moving figures without prohibitive cost?

Makers of miniatures for the motion picture studios, called in for consultation, declared it was a simple matter of construction to create a cardboard and stucco model library mounted on a six-foot table (which would also serve as packing box for transportation) and by means of a chain drive attached to the electricity to manipulate three groups of tiny moving figures—two lines to enter the building from the sides and one line at right angles to the others to step from the front door bearing huge books. The flapper would carry the latest novel, the housewife a book on cookery, the mechanic a volume on gasoline engines, the professor on astronomy, etc. The figures were of heavy cardboard painted in the modern manner, about seven inches in height, and the books were exaggerated two inches in order that the titles might be plainly read. The cost of the models set up was three hundred dollars, the lowest bid from three decorators.

An attractive booth, twelve feet by thirty-four and open on four sides, was arranged by the Long Beach Public Library. The frame was painted a light green and the top served as a background for lettering with "California Libraries" on either end and in the center "Libraries Provide Information—Recreation," and the remaining spaces filled with slogans such as "Practical Aid to the Worker," "Opportunity for Self Education."

The model library in the center of the booth was flanked by double-faced screens, one containing photographs showing county library work and library architecture, and the other a display of "Reading With a Purpose" courses centering in a map of the world of knowledge. On the table at one side were book lists for free distribution and copies of the "Reading With a Purpose" courses for sale.

The miniature library and the moving figures attracted much attention. No child could pass the enticing little building lighted from within, with tiny figures pushing thru the door without stopping to see if the same figures entered the library that came forth with books. Parents, perforce, must wait until every figure made an exit and disappeared into the library shrubbery. Nor were adults averse to pausing to stop, look and listen, and in many instances to inquire about books for children, or for their own recreation and information.

Book lists furnished by various libraries melted away. About six score American Library Association booklets were sold and many questions answered about these reading courses. The

most popular titles were *Psychology*, *Good English* and *Our Children*.

Interesting experiences were reported by the librarians who kept open house at the booth during the busy hours of the exposition. Several sailors purchased the reading courses and said they would buy the titles suggested to take on the next sea voyage. One woman bought nine reading courses with the intention of founding her personal library on the books listed. Mothers were interested in hearing how libraries co-operate with schools in teaching the value of reading. Occasional visitors were interested in the organization of libraries, in the carrying of books to the people thru the county library system and were surprised to learn of the existence of the state and national library associations.

The weight of responsibility fell on the Long Beach Public Library, which bore the expense of the booth and sent library attendants afternoons and evenings for four weeks of the exhibit. The Los Angeles County Library and the Los Angeles Public Library each furnished attendants during one week. Inevitably the question arises "Do such exhibits pay?" Results of this kind of advertising are necessarily intangible, but it is evident that the library must take its rightful place as an educational agency, a democratic institution appealing to all ages and classes. People cannot be too often reminded of the status of the modern library. It is thru such exhibits that the library makes contact with people who have not discovered its possibilities and opportunities.

A. L. A. CONFERENCE 1929

PROVIDED satisfactory arrangements can be concluded, the annual conference of the American Library Association and other organizations will be held in Washington, D. C., during the week of May 13.

A post-conference educational tour is proposed which will occupy the weeks between the Washington conference and the international conference scheduled for the latter part of June in Rome. Arrangements will be made for visiting important libraries and meeting European librarians.

THE long anticipated *Code for Classifiers* to be issued before the end of November aims to do for the classifier, what *A. L. A. Catalog Rules* does for the cataloger. It deals not with any particular classification scheme but with principles by which consistency may be maintained in assigning books to their appropriate places in a system of classification.

FIVE HUNDRED BOOKS FOR A HOSPITAL LIBRARY

SELECTED BY SARAH DORIS LAMB

Continued from the November 1 Number

FICTION

- Abbott, E. H. *Molly Make-Believe*. Century, 1910. \$1.
 Sprightly tale of a bedridden, lonely, young man diverted by the ingenious methods employed for his amusement by a mysterious love-letter agency.
- Adams, Andy. *Log of a Cowboy*. Houghton, 1903. \$1.50.
 Account of a drive of three thousand cattle from Mexico to Montana. Vivid picture of the life of the true cowboy.
- Allen, J. L. *A Kentucky Cardinal*. Macmillan, 1899. \$1.75.
 Excellent descriptions of Kentucky are woven into this love story.
- Ashmun, M. E., ed. *Modern Short Stories*. Macmillan, 1914. \$1.75.
 Outstanding collection of short stories. Biographical data given for each author.
- Atkinson, E. S. *Greyfriars Bobby*. Harper, 1912. \$2.
 Fine story of a Skye terrier, told largely in Scotch dialect.
- Austen, Jane. *Pride and Prejudice*. Crowell, 1915. \$1.50.
 English domestic life at the beginning of the nineteenth century. A comedy of manners.
- Bachelor, I. A. *Man for the Ages*. Bobbs, 1919. \$2.
 Story of the youth and early manhood of Lincoln, opening in 1831, and ending in 1847.
- Bailey, Temple. *Blue Window*. Penn, 1926. \$2.
 "Story of a young girl who leaves her western farm home and goes East. She finds her ideals and loyalties difficult to maintain in the new atmosphere of luxury and sophistication." *Pittsburgh*.
- *Wallflowers*. Penn, 1927. \$2.
 Popular love story.
- Banning, M. C. *Pressure*. Harper, 1927. \$2.
 "Story centering around a group of characters in a mid-western city who all feel the pressure of modern business and politics." *Wis. Lib. Bull.*
- Barrie, J. M. *Little Minister*. Scribner, 1927. \$2.
 Love affairs of a Presbyterian minister and a beautiful and sprightly gipsy.
- Barrington, E., pseud. *Glorious Apollo*. Dodd, 1925. \$2.50.
 The Apollo is Lord Byron. The book deals with his love affairs, his ill-fated marriage, and his death.
- Beach, R. E. *Barrier*. Harper, 1908. \$2.
 Story of Alaskan gold fields.
- *Iron Trail*. Harper, 1913. \$2.25.
 "Story of Alaska, filled with love and adventure and accounts of big enterprise." *A. L. A. Catalog*.
- Bellamy, F. R. *Spanish Faith*. Harper, 1926. \$2.
 Dashing romance of Old Mexico and the Caribbean a hundred years ago when it meant death to trade in the Indies and when pirates harried the ships.
- Bennett, Arnold. *Buried Alive*. Doran, 1910. \$2.
 Skillfully handled, farcical satire on British character.
- Biggers, E. D. *House Without a Key*. Bobbs, 1925. \$2.
 A Chinese detective and a correct Bostonian are the incongruous pair who unravel the mysterious murder. First of the "Charlie Chan" series.
- Bindloss, Harold. *Wilderness Patrol*. Stokes, 1923. \$1.90.
 Northwest story in which the hero is connected with the Royal mounted police.
- Birmingham, G. A., pseud. See Hannay, J. O.
- Blackmore, R. D. *Lorna Doone*. Harper, 1913. \$3.
 Love story of Exmoor, picturing rude life in the wild moorlands of the west of England.
- Bojer, Johan. *Great Hunger*. Century, 1919. \$2.
 Moving tale of a Norwegian peasant who finds his soul's hunger for the divine satisfied not thru material success but thru suffering.
- Bosher, Mrs. K. L. *Mary Cary*. Grosset, 1910. 75 c.
 Diary of a precocious but lovable child brought up in an orphan asylum.
- Bower, B. M., pseud. *Chip of the Flying U*. Grosset, 1906. 75 c.
 Humorous and exciting story of Western ranch life.
- *Ranch at the Wolverine*. Burt, 1914. 60 c.
 Western story.
- Boyd, James. *Marching On*. Scribner, 1927. \$2.50.
 Story of Civil War with scene laid in North Carolina. Free from rancour.
- Boyd, Thomas. *Through the Wheat*. Scribner, 1923. \$1.75.
 Least partisan and the most brilliant of dough-boy reminiscences.
- Brady, Mariel. *Genevieve Gertrude*. Appleton, 1928. \$2.
 Entertaining and humorous story of Grade 5 with its portrayal of school life, its youngsters, and teachers.
- Brontë, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre*. Harper, 1925. \$2.50. (Haworth ed.)
 Story of a girl acting as a governess who revolts against social conventions and narrow religious dogma of her time.
- Brown, Heywood. *Boy Grew Older*. Putnam, 1922. 1.75.
 Excellence of the story lies in its candor, simplicity, and humor in the telling.
- Buchan, John. *Huntingtower*. Doran, 1923. \$2.
 Dickson McCunn, retired grocer, starts on a

- walking tour which results in a week of romance and adventure.
- *Witch Wood*. Houghton, 1927. \$2.50.
Romance of Scotland in the time of the Covenanters.
- Burt, M. S. *Delectable Mountains*. Scribner, 1927. \$2.
Difficulties of adjustment when an Eastern college man, fine and of old family, marries a dancer of intelligence and character but not his social equal, and takes her to his Wyoming ranch.
- Byrne, Donn. *Blind Raftery*. Century, 1924. \$1.25.
"Charming idyl of the Irish countryside, telling of the love of a blind harpist for the beautiful Spanish lady, Hilarie." *A. L. A. Catalog*.
- *Crusade*. Little, 1928. \$2.
This truly fine story is rich in the color and atmosphere of the East at the time of the Crusades.
- Cannon, C. J. *Red Rust*. Little, 1928. \$2.50.
Story of Swedish immigrants in the Northern part of Minnesota, of pioneer hardship and struggle.
- Cather, W. S. *Death Comes for the Archbishop*. Knopf, 1927. \$2.50.
Father Latour: his life in New Mexico in the years between 1848 and 1888.
- *My Antonia*. Houghton, 1918. \$2.50.
Beautiful story of a Bohemian immigrant girl told by a New York lawyer who had been her playmate. Vivid picture of the pioneer period in Nebraska.
- Caswood, Mark, pseud. *Rainbow Island*. Viking, 1927. \$2.
Sea yarn, well told.
- Chambers, R. W. *Drums of Aulone*. Appleton, 1927. \$2.
Historical romance at the time of the persecution of the Huguenots in the seventeenth century.
- Chesterton, G. K. *Man Who Was Thursday*. Dodd, 1908. \$1.50.
Unusual detective story.
- Christie, Agatha. *Secret of Chimneys*. Dodd, 1925. \$2.
Entertaining and mystifying.
- Churchill, Winston. *Crisis*. Macmillan, 1902. \$2.50.
Civil War story in which Lincoln appears.
- *Richard Carvel*. Macmillan, 1899. \$2.50.
Revolutionary War romance.
- Clemens, S. L. *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Harper. \$2.25.
An epic of boyhood.
- *Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. Harper. \$2.25.
Full of mischief and fun, to a certain extent autobiographical. Classic of American boyhood.
- Cobb, I. S., comp. *Laugh a Day Keeps the Doctor Away*. Doran, 1923. \$2.50.
Three hundred and sixty-six funny stories collected by Irvin Cobb.
- Cole, G. D. H., and Margaret Cole. *Death of a Millionaire*. Macmillan, 1925. \$2.
Well written and sustained mystery.
- Collins, Dale. *Sentimentalists*. Little, 1927. \$2.
Good sea tale.
- Comfort, W. L. *Samadhi*. Houghton, 1927. \$2.50.
Fascinating tale of men and elephants.
- Connolly, J. B. *Steel Decks*. Scribner, 1925. \$2.
Romantic, exciting story of the sea.
- Conrad, Joseph. *Lord Jim*. Doubleday, 1900. \$1.90.
Deals with a man's life-long attempt to atone for an act of cowardice.
- Cooper, C. R. *Lions 'n' Tigers 'n' Everything*. Little, 1924. \$2.
Humorous stories of circus animals.
- *Oklahoma*. Little, 1926. \$2.
Vivid story of the opening up of Oklahoma in the 1880's.
- Cooper, Mrs. E. G. *My Lady of the Indian Purdah*. Stokes, 1927. \$2.50.
Romantic story of a young princess and her English lover. Popular in appeal.
- Cooper, J. F. *Deerslayer*. Putnam. \$2.
First of the Leather Stocking Tales. May be followed by others as desired.
- Crofts, F. W. *Inspector French's Greatest Case*. Boni, 1925. \$2.
Detective story.
- Curwood, J. O. *Alaskan*. Cosmopolitan, 1923. \$2.
Outstanding Alaskan romance.
- *Black Hunter*. Cosmopolitan, 1926. \$2.
Novel of French and Indian War times. Disapproved for neuro-psychiatric hospitals because of over-harrowing detail of Indian attacks.
- Daingerfield, Foxhall. *House Across the Way*. Appleton, 1928. \$2.
Engrossing mystery yarn.
- Davis, Elmer. *Friends of Mr. Sweeney*. McBride, 1925. \$2.
Adventure incident to a down-trodden assistant editor's attempts at a fling. Infectious humor.
- Day, H. F. *Clothes Make the Pirate*. Harper, 1925. \$2.
Droll story of a henpecked tailor of colonial Boston who finds escape from reality in tales of pirates.
- *King Spruce*. Harper, 1908. \$1.50.
Story of the Maine timber regions.
- Deeping, Warwick. *Kitty*. Knopf, 1927. \$2.50.
How a plucky young wife sets about the rehabilitation of her disabled soldier husband, impeded by an unfriendly mother-in-law. A story of difficulties courageously and constructively met.
- *Sorrell and Son*. Knopf, 1925. \$2.50.
Absorbing tale of relations between father and son.
- De Ford, Alice. *Singing River*. Little, 1927. \$2.50.
Good old-fashioned love story.
- De La Roche, Mazo. *Jalna*. Little, 1927. \$2.00.
Jalna is the family home of the Whiteoakes. Many generations, all dominated by the old grandmother are represented.
- Dickens, Charles. *David Copperfield*. Scribner. \$2.50.
The novel abounds in unique characters ex-

- emphasizing Dickens' peculiar genius for character creation.
- *Pickwick Papers*. Scribner. \$2.50.
- Masterpiece of humor.
- Drake, H. B. *Schooner California*. Harper. \$2.
- Exceptionally good adventure story which ranges from Canada to South America in the fifties.
- Duncan, Norman. *Doctor Luke of the Labrador*. Revell, 1904. \$1.50.
- Life of Labrador fisher folk, recalling the work of Dr. Grenfell.
- Eggleston, Edward. *Hoosier Schoolmaster*. Judd. \$1.75.
- Picture of pioneer life in Indiana.
- Eliot, George, pseud. *Silas Marner*. Houghton, \$2.
- Story of a weaver, his stolen gold, and the little child who comes to his door.
- Erskine, John. *Private Life of Helen of Troy*. Bobbs, 1925. \$2.50.
- Helen interpreted in terms of present day schools of conduct in a story of delightful wit and satire.
- Erskine, L. Y. *Power of the Hills*. Appleton, 1928. \$2.
- A good westerner.
- *Renfrew Rides Again*. Appleton, 1927. \$1.75.
- Northwest mounted police story.
- Ertz, Susan. *Madame Claire*. Appleton, 1923.
- Serenity and wisdom are personified in Madame Claire.
- Evarts, H. G. *Spanish Acres*. Little, 1925. \$2.
- Cattle ranch story in the Southwest in 1890.
- Farjeon, Eleanor. *Martin Pippin in the Apple Orchard*. Stokes, 1922. \$2.50.
- Fanciful.
- Farjeon, J. J. *Green Dragon*. Dial, 1926. \$2.
- A mystery story *de luxe*, combining action, adventure, thrills, humor and literary skill. The uncanniness of the Chinese character bars it from neuro-psychiatric hospitals.
- Farnol, Jeffery. *Broad Highway*. Little, 1911. \$2.
- A young English gentleman starts on foot to make his fortune rather than comply with the conditions of his uncle's erratic will.
- Ferber, Edna. *Fanny Herself*. Stokes, 1917. \$1.40.
- A novel containing excellent character studies.
- *Show Boat*. Doubleday, 1926. \$2.
- Follows the fortunes of the Hawks-Ravenel family from the 1870's to the present. Scene on the Mississippi.
- *So Big*. Doubleday, 1924. \$2.
- Faithful picture of a certain phase of life in America among the fashionable set.
- Finger, C. J. *Highwaymen*. McBride, 1923. \$3.
- Collection of short stories built around the exploits of notorious highwaymen.
- Fisher, D. C. *Bent Twig*. Holt, 1915. \$2.
- "Story of a professor's family in a mid-western university, showing how the influence of a wise mother stays with her daughters in after life." *A. L. A. Catalog*.
- *Her Son's Wife*. Harcourt, 1926. \$2.
- A careful character study of the mother and daughter-in-law relationship.
- *Home-Maker*. Harcourt, 1924. \$2.
- Tale of reversed relations in the home, the mother becoming the bread-winner and the husband the home-maker.
- Fletcher, J. S. *Markenmore Mystery*. Knopf, 1923. \$2.
- Most ingenious and vivid of Fletcher's output.
- Footner, Hulbert. "Officer." Doran, 1924. \$2.
- Entertaining story of Larry, a young policeman, who falls violently in love with the girl whose arrest he is called upon to make.
- Forster, E. M. *A Passage to India*. Harcourt, 1924. \$2.50.
- Remarkable story of the English in India and of the constant struggle due to the extreme, irreconcilable points of view of the two races.
- Fox, John, jr. *Erskine Dale, Pioneer*. Burt, 1922. 75 c.
- Novel of frontier life in the Kentucky mountains during the American revolution.
- Frederick, J. T. *Green Bush*. Knopf, 1925. \$2.50.
- Story is based on an intense love for the soil.
- Freeman, R. A. *Cat's-Eye*. Dodd, 1927. \$2.
- Clever mystery.
- *A Certain Dr. Thorndyke*. Dodd, 1928. \$2.
- New detective story—not unpleasant.
- Fuller, Margaret. *Alma*. Morrow, 1927. \$2.
- "This story of a Danish servant girl who believed herself destined for love and marriage is a strange and beautiful book." *Wis. Lib. Bull.*
- Gale, Zona. *Miss Lulu Bett*. Appleton, 1920. \$1.
- About a spinster who longs for and achieves escape from a cheerless life of drudgery in her sister's household.
- *Yellow Gentians and Blue*. Appleton, 1927. \$2.
- Excellent short stories.
- Galsworthy, John. *Forsyte Saga*. Scribner, 1922. \$2.50.
- Chronicles of the Forsyte family in three long novels and two short sketches.
- *Freelands*. Scribner, 1915. \$2.
- Problem involved is "the land" and the agricultural laborer in England.
- *Silver Spoon*. Scribner, 1926. \$2.
- Continuation of Forsyte characters.
- *White Monkey*. Scribner, 1924. \$2.
- Continuation of the Forsyte saga.
- Garland, Hamlin. *Main-Travelled Roads*. Harper, 1899. \$1.50. ("Middle border" ed.)
- Realistic pictures of the Mississippi valley.
- *Trail Makers of the Middle Border*. Macmillan, 1926. \$2.50.
- To be recommended for all hospitals. History made into a moving and romantic story.
- Garrett, W. A. *Doctor Ricardo*. Appleton, 1925. \$2.
- Well-done detective story revolving around an uniquely planned murder. Disapproved for neuro-psychiatric hospitals because of suicidal suggestion.
- *From Friday to Monday*. Appleton, 1923. \$2.
- Lively detective story that men will enjoy.
- Gibbs, A. H. *Labels*. Little, 1926. \$2.
- Novel of post-war adjustments in an English

- family. Presents conflicting viewpoints interestingly told and without bitterness.
- *Soundings*. Little, 1925. \$2.
Well written story of a motherless English girl brought up by her artist father.
- Gibbs, J. P. *Portia Marries*. Little, 1926. \$2.
Good case is made for matrimony plus career.
- Gibbs, P. H. *Unchanging Quest*. Doran, 1926. \$2.
Thoughtful novel which surveys English life in the close of the World War.
- Glasgow, Ellen. *Barren Ground*. Doubleday, 1925. \$2.50.
Realistic novel of the South.
- Gluck, Sinclair. *Green Blot*. Dodd, 1925. \$2.
Mystery novel in which complicated situations develop with breathless rapidity.
- Gowen, V. H. *Sun and Moon*. Little, 1927. \$2.50.
Clever and unusual story of China of today, woven about the plight of a charming English girl whose father sets up a Chinese household after the death of his English wife, and marries his daughter to an Oriental. Gives interesting insight into Chinese family life.
- Gray, C. W., comp. *"Daugs."* Holt, 1925. \$2.50.
Anthology of dog stories.
- *Deep Waters*. Holt, 1928. \$2.50.
Anthology of stories of the sea.
- *"Hosses."* Holt, 1927. \$2.50.
Horses are the heroes of this collection of seventeen short stories by Zane Grey, Santee, Melville, Chamberlain, Benefield and others.
- Gregory, Jackson. *Captain Cavalier*. Scribner, 1927. \$2.
Romance of old California in the days of Spanish rule. Men will like this.
- *Everlasting Whisper*. Scribner, 1922. \$1.75.
Forest and mountain story.
- Grenfell, W. T. *Tales of the Labrador*. Houghton, 1916. \$2.
Stories of shipwreck, peril and adventure.
- Grey, Zane. *Call of the Canyon*. Harper, 1924. \$2.
Typical Zane Grey western story.
- *Forlorn River*. Harper, 1927. \$2.
Straightforward story of brave men and loyal women and wild horses in Northern California.
- *Rainbow Trail*. Harper, 1915. \$2.
Sequel to *Riders of the Purple Sage*.
- *Riders of the Purple Sage*. Harper, 1912. \$2.
Well handled story of escapes from Mormon vengeance in southwestern Utah in 1871.
- *Thundering Herd*. Harper, 1925. \$2.
Western story whose episodes are drawn from buffalo hunting days.
- Grimshaw, Beatrice. *Wreck of the Redwing*. Holt, 1926. \$2.
Adventure in the South Seas.
- Hannay, J. O. (G. A. Birmingham, pseud.). *Lady of the Abbey*. Bobbs, 1926. \$2.
Amusing story parodying post-war international clashings.
- *Smuggler's Cave*. Bobbs, 1927. \$2.
Quietly humorous story of absurd situations.
- *Spanish Gold*. Doran, 1911. \$2.
Rollicking tale of the search for the spoil of a galleon of the Armada wrecked off the coast of Ireland.
- Harland, Henry. *Cardinal's Snuff-Box*. Dodd, 1903. \$2.50.
Story of love in an Italian villa. Charm lies in brightness of the repartee.
- Harris, J. C. *Uncle Remus and His Friends*. Houghton, \$1.50.
Old plantation stories, songs and ballads.
- Harte, Bret. *Luck of Roaring Camp*. Houghton, \$2.
Life in early California gold mining days.
- Hawes, C. B. *Mutineers*. Atlantic, 1920. \$2.
Sea and adventure tale in the Far East.
- Hearn, Lafcadio. *Chita*. Harper. \$2.
Charming story located on the islands off the coast of Louisiana.
- Hémon, Louis. *Maria Chapdelaine*. Macmillan, 1921. \$2.50.
Simple and moving tale of French Canadian pioneers.
- Henry, O., pseud. *Four Million*. Doubleday, \$2.
Excellent short stories of New York City life.
- Hergesheimer, Joseph. *Java Head*. Knopf, 1919. \$1.75.
A son of one of the old sea-faring families of Salem, Massachusetts, brings home a high-born Manchu wife.
- Hough, Emerson. *Covered Wagon*. Appleton, 1922. \$2.
West-bound wagon train journeying from Missouri to Oregon furnishes material for the story.
- *North of 36*. Appleton, 1923. \$2.
Adventures that befell a cattle train as it moved over the trail from Texas northward.
- Howells, W. D. *Rise of Silas Lapham*. Houghton. \$2.50.
Picture of a self-made American in the late nineteenth century.
- Hudson, J. W. *Abbé Pierre*. Appleton, 1922. \$2.
Scene, a little Gascon village. Much interesting local color.
- Hudson, W. H. *Green Mansions*. Knopf, 1916. \$2.50.
Based on the naturalist-author's extensive travel in South America.
- Hurst, Fannie. *A President is Born*. Harper, 1928. \$2.50.
The president of the story takes office somewhere around 1950. The story itself is of his early life and preparation on a middle western farm.
- Jackson, H. H. *Ramona*. Little, 1900. \$2.
Romance of southern California.
- James, Will. *Smoky: the Story of a Cow-Pony*. Scribner, 1926. \$2.50.
Graphic story of a cow-pony. Fully illustrated with pencil sketches.
- Jesse, F. T. *Tom Fool*. Knopf, 1926. \$2.50.
Story of a hero with a craving for the sea and moments of great danger. Told with charm.

- Johnston, Mary. *To Have and to Hold*. Houghton, 1900. \$2.
Virginia romance of reign of James I.
- Kelland, C. B. *Rhoda Fair*. Harper, 1926. \$2.
Much action in plot tho ethical and religious in emphasis.
- Kester, Vaughan. *Prodigal Judge*. Grosset, 1911. 75c.
Adventure centers about a disreputable but lovable judge.
- Kipling, Rudyard. *Kim*. Doubleday, 1903. \$1.90.
Kim is a street Arab; his relations with the British secret service and journeys thru India tell the story.
- Knibbs, H. H. *Overland Red*. Houghton, 1914. \$1.35.
Adventurous tale of tramping, ranching and gold hunting in California.
- *Sundown Slim*. Houghton, 1915. \$1.35.
Arizona cattle ranch story.
- *Wild Horses*. Houghton, 1923. \$2.
Arizona story of the old West.
- Knight, Gladys. *Marriage for Two*. Liveright, 1924. \$1.75.
Humorous story of life in a tuberculosis sanatorium in Texas.
- Kyne, P. B. *Cappy Ricks*. Grosset, 1920. 75c.
Humorous business story.
- *Valley of the Giants*. Grosset, 1920. \$1.
Tale of the timber regions of California.
- Lagerlöf, Selma. *Charlotte Lowenskold*. Doubleday, 1927. \$2.50.
Splendid story of the high spirited Charlotte's love for the young curate and of the rich man who comes wooing.
- Lane, E. M. *Nancy Stair*. Appleton, 1904. \$1.
Romance of the eighteenth century in Edinburgh.
- Leacock, S. B. *Garden of Folly*. Dodd, 1921. \$2.
Humorous essays.
- Lewis, Sinclair. *Arrowsmith*. Harcourt, 1925. \$2.
Portrait of a physician done with an ironic pen.
- Lincoln, J. C. *Dr. Nye*. Appleton, 1923. \$2.
Tale full of quiet country life and humor.
- *Queer Judson*. Appleton, 1925. \$2.
Cape Cod story of quaint characters and gentle humor.
- Locke, W. J. *Beloved Vagabond*. Dodd, 1906. \$2.
Hero is a wandering philosopher—irresistible tale of the open road and the free life.
- *Perella*. Dodd, 1926. \$2.
Romance located in Italy.
- London, Jack. *Call of the Wild*. Macmillan, 1903. \$1.75.
Story of wild life in the Klondike, of a dog that relapses into savagery.
- *White Fang*. Macmillan, 1906. \$1.75.
Story of a wolf-dog that became a loyal ally to man.
- Lutz, G. H. *New Name*. Lippincott, 1926. \$2.
Delightful story of a rich young pleasure-seeker's change into a worthy citizen.
- Lynde, Francis. *Mellowing Money*. Scribner, 1925. \$2.
Reclamation of a well-born hobo makes this story an exciting adventure.
- Macaulay, Rose. *Told by an Idiot*. Liveright, 1921. \$2.
History always absurdly repeats itself and the younger generation is continually in revolt against the older.
- McClure, M. B. *High Fires*. Little, 1924. \$2.
Convincing story with an underlying idealism.
- MacHarg, William, and Edwin Balmer. *Indian Drum*. Little, 1917. \$2.
Absorbing mystery—scene laid in Chicago and on Lake Michigan.
- Mackail, D. G. *Flower Show*. Houghton, 1927. \$2.50.
Charming story of the Flower Show, a yearly festival, given at Nutlington court.
- Mackenzie, Compton. *Fairy Gold*. Doran, 1926. \$2.
Romance ensuing when a young English lieutenant is sent during the war to command a garrison on an island whose owner has two wholly delightful daughters.
- Marshall, Edison. *Land of Forgotten Men*. Little, 1923. \$1.75.
Alaskan love story with a touch of mystery.
- Martin, G. M. *Emmy Lou*. Doubleday, 1902. \$2.
Slightly satirical story of a very real little girl's school days.
- Mason, A. E. W. *House of the Arrow*. Doran, 1924. \$2.
Moving plot with well-drawn characters.
- Melville, Herman. *Moby Dick*. Dodd, 1907. \$3.50. (Abridged ed., Scribner, 88c.)
Realistic story of whale-fishing in the Pacific, conveying the magic and beauty of the sea.
- Meredith, George. *Ordeal of Richard Feverel*. Scribner, \$1.
Primarily a story of father and son. Full of keen epigram.
- Miller, Agnes. *Colfax Book-Plate*. Century, 1926. \$2.
Plot centers about seeking possession of an old book.
- Minnigerode, Meade. *Cordelia Chantrell*. Putnam, 1926. \$2.
Pre-Civil War society in South Carolina.
- Mitchell, R. C. *Call of the House*. Appleton, 1927. \$2.
Story of modern woman in politics.
- *Wishing Carpet*. Appleton, 1926. \$2.
Not a complicated story but interestingly and humorously told, giving a background of life in a Southern town.
- Montague, C. E. *Rough Justice*. Doubleday, 1926. \$2.
Story of English society and the World War.
- Morley, Christopher. *Parnassus on Wheels*. Doubleday, 1917. \$1.75.
Fascinating story of a bookshop on wheels.
- *Thunder on the Left*. Doubleday, 1925. \$2.
"Whimsical allegory that attempts to arrive at the essential difference between the adult and the

- child mind." *A. L. A. Catalog.*
Morrow, H. W. *Exile of the Lariat.* Stokes, 1923. \$2.
Western adventure story.
— *Forever Free.* Morrow, 1927. \$2.
Excellent historical story of Abraham Lincoln. Popular appeal.
— *Still Jim.* Stokes, 1915. \$1.35.
Story of a young engineer in New Mexico.
— *We Must March.* Stokes, 1925. \$2.
"Historical romance in which the action centers around the saving of Oregon by the Whitmans. *A. L. A. Catalog.*
Mulford, C. E. *Bar 20 Rides Again.* Doubleday, 1926. \$2.
Western story told with lively humor.
— *Hopalong Cassidy Returns.* Burt, 1926. 75c.
Western.
Niven, F. J. *Wild Honey.* Dodd, 1927. \$2.
Joyful story of educated hoboes.
Norris, Kathleen. *Barberry Bush.* Doubleday, 1927. \$2.
"Story of an impulsive girl who makes a rash marriage and then stands by her bargain." *Wis. Lib. Bull.*
— *Saturday's Child.* Doubleday, 1914. \$1.50.
Life-story of a girl who earns her own living.
O'Brien, E. J. *Best Short Stories of 1927.* Dodd, 1927. \$2.50.
Anthology of short stories, selected from the magazines of the year. (Annual.)
Oemler, M. C. *Slippy McGee.* Century, 1917. \$2.
Charming story, both in its characterization and its Southern small-town setting.
Ogden, G. W. *Short Grass.* Dodd, 1927. \$2.
Western story of the better sort.
— *West of Dodge.* Dodd, 1926. \$2.
Story of Kansas in the pioneer railroading days.
Ollivant, Alfred. *Bob, Son of Battle.* Doubleday. \$2.
Scotch dog story.
Oppenheim, E. P. *Inevitable Millionaires.* Little, 1925. \$2.
Delightfully whimsical tale of two brothers whose efforts to live up their income were frustrated at every turn.
— *Peter Ruff and the Double Four.* Little, 1912. \$1.25.
Clever detective story.
Packard, F. L. *Adventures of Jimmie Dale.* Doran, 1917. \$2.
Idle young New York society man plays the part of a burglar. Men like it.
— *Broken Waters.* Doran, 1925. \$2.
Tense situations and swiftly moving plot.
Page, T. N. *Red Riders.* Scribner, 1924. \$2.
Civil War and Reconstruction period novel.
— *Red Rock.* Scribner, 1898. \$2.
Story of Civil War and the Reconstruction period centering around a Southern plantation.
Parker, Gilbert. *Power and the Glory.* Harper, 1925. \$2.
Historical novel of LaSalle and his opening up of the American wilderness.
— *Tarboe.* Harper, 1927. \$2.
Tells life history of a professional gambler and card sharp. Men will like it.
Parrish, Anne. *Perennial Bachelor.* Harper, 1925. \$2.
Won Harper prize novel contest for 1925. Excellent.
Pendleton, A. L. *Bugs and Nuts, as Seen and Heard in a Hospital.* Gardner Hotel, El Paso, Texas: Author, 1924. \$1.25.
Illustrations are of chief interest. Will amuse any patient in a tuberculosis sanatorium.
Pertwee, Roland. *Gentlemen March.* Houghton, 1927. \$2.50.
"A good adventure-romance combining qualities from *Prisoner of Zenda* and *Beau Geste*." *Wis. Lib. Bull.*
— *Rivers to Cross.* Houghton, 1927. \$2.
Encounter of a young engineer with rascality, rancor and romance in his attempt to win fly-ing-field concessions for Great Britain on an island in the Azores. Swiftly moving adventure.
Peterkin, Julia. *Black April.* Bobbs, 1927. \$2.50.
Story of negro life on a South Carolina plantation with no white characters. Powerful medicine episode makes book unfit for neuro-psychiatric hospitals.
Pinkerton, R. E. *Fourth Norwood.* Reilly & Lee, 1925. \$2.
Story of the Northern fur trade.
— *Test of Donald Norton.* Reilly & Lee, 1924. \$2.
Story of Hudson Bay company's fur trading days. Lively plot.
Quick, Herbert. *Hawkeye.* Bobbs, 1923. \$2.
Sequel to *Vandemark's Folly*.
— *Invisible Woman.* Bobbs, 1924. \$2.
Last novel in the trilogy dealing with Iowa history to which *Vandemark's Folly* and *The Hawkeye* belong. Unsuitable for neuro-psychiatric hospitals.
— *Vandemark's Folly.* Bobbs, 1922. \$2.
Story of the pioneer period in Iowa.
Raine, W. M. *Desert's Price.* Doubleday, 1924. \$2.
Recommended for all addicts to the western story.
— *Yukon Trail.* Houghton, 1917. \$2.
Story of business and love.
Rhys, Ernest, and Mrs. C. A. Scott. *Twenty-Eight Humorous Stories Old and New by Twenty and Eight Authors.* Appleton, 1926. \$2.50.
Richmond, Grace. *Red and Black.* Burt, 1921. \$1.
Wholesome love story.
Rinehart, M. R. *Circular Staircase.* Grosset, 1908. 75c.
Humorous detective story.
— "K." Houghton, 1915. \$1.35.
Hospital story—interesting but unfit for neuro-psychiatric hospitals because of poisoning incident.
— *Red Lamp.* Doran, 1925. \$2.
Elements of a ghost story blended with a murder mystery. Not for neuro-psychiatric hospitals.

- Roberts, E. M. *Time of Man*. Viking, 1926. \$2.
Realistic novel of the southern mountains written with rare beauty and charm.
- Rolvag, O. E. *Giants in the Earth; a Saga of the Prairie*. Harper, 1927. \$2.50.
Pictures Per Hansa, a Norwegian immigrant, as a pioneer in Dakota. The prairie life means freedom and an exhilarating struggle to him but loneliness and despair to his wife.
- Ruck, Berta. *His Official Fiancée*. Dodd, 1915. \$1.25.
Piquant, light novel.
- Russell, M. A. B., countess. ("Elizabeth," pseud.). *Enchanted April*. Doubleday, 1923. \$2.
"Wonderful effect of an Italian April on four English women, all at odds with life in different ways, is portrayed with the author's characteristic cleverness." *A. L. A. Catalog*.
- Sabatini, Rafael. *Captain Blood*. Houghton, 1922. \$2.
Exciting romance of the Spanish Main.
- *Fortune's Fool*. Houghton, 1923. \$2.
Scene is laid in England at the time of the Stuart restoration.
- *Scaramouche*. Grosset, 1923. 75c.
Romance of the French revolution.
- Santee, Ross. *Men and Horses*. Century, 1926. \$3.
Twenty stories portraying the West in cowboy vernacular. Illustrations add touch of realism.
- Scoggins, C. E. *Red Gods Call*. Bobbs, 1926. \$2.
Novel of remote and dangerous adventure which will lure the cooped-up mortal.
- Scott, Walter. *Ivanhoe*. Macmillan. \$2.25.
Many-colored picture of medieval England.
- *Quentin Durward*. Macmillan. \$2.
Rich and varied picture of the age when feudalism and chivalry were about to pass away.
- Seltzer, C. A. *Channing Comes Through*. Century, 1925. \$2.
Story of the great open spaces.
- *Valley of the Stars*. Century, 1926. \$2.
Standard western story.
- Shephard, Esther. *Paul Bunyan*. Seattle: McNeil Press, 1924.
Legends of Paul Bunyan collected from loggers. Short, humorous, easy to take in small doses.
- Silvestre, Charles. *Aimée Villard, Daughter of France*. Macmillan, 1928. \$1.75.
Picture of French pastoral life.
- Sinclair, B. W. *North of 53*. Little, 1914. \$1.30.
Readable and cheery love story.
- Spearman, F. H. *Nan of the Music Mountain*. Scribner, 1916. \$2.
Western story that will hold the interest.
- *Whispering Smith*. Scribner, 1906. \$2.
Building of an early railroad in the Southwest furnishes the setting for this absorbing tale.
- Stevens, James. *Brawnyman*. Knopf, 1926. \$2.50.
Saga of the building of the West. Autobiographical.
- Stephens, James. *Crock of Gold*. Macmillan, 1926. \$2.50.
Fantasia of men, gods and fairies in Ireland.
- Stern, G. B. *Dark Gentleman*. Knopf, 1927. \$2.50.
Dog characters parody the ways of humans. Gentle satire.
- Stevenson, R. L. *Master of Ballantrae*. Scribner, 1907. \$1.
Tragic annals of a noble Scottish family involved in the Jacobite troubles of 1745.
- *Treasure Island*. Scribner. \$1.50.
Story of piracy and concealed treasure.
- Stone, E. C. *Laughingest Lady*. Appleton, 1927. \$2.
"Entertaining sketches of Mexican youngsters on the Border." *Wis. Lib. Bull.*
- Tarkington, Booth. *Alice Adams*. Doubleday, 1921. \$2.
Lightly handled but penetrating character study.
- *Monsieur Beaucaire*. Doubleday. \$1.75.
Drama of intrigue in England of the eighteenth century.
- *Penrod*. Doubleday, 1914. \$2.
Amusing yarns for adults of the pranks and experiences of a mischievous boy of eleven.
- *Plutocrat*. Doubleday, 1927. \$2.
A shrewd social satire, sugar coated, with colorful settings on a Mediterranean cruise.
- Terhune, A. P. *Black Caesar's Clan*. Doran, 1922. \$1.75.
Mystery story of Florida today.
- *Gray Dawn*. Harper, 1927. \$2.
Fine dog story.
- Thackeray, W. M. *Vanity Fair*. Harper. \$2.50.
Most distinguished of Thackeray's novels.
- Thane, Elswyth. *Riders of the Wind*. Stokes, 1926. \$2.
Sentimental adventure.
- Tomlinson, H. M. *Gallion's Reach*. Harper, 1927. \$2.50.
Powerful description, philosophic depth, and beauty of style are embodied in this adventure. Subjective trend and small print will limit its readers.
- Train, Arthur. *Blind Goddess*. Scribner, 1926. \$2.
Engrossing story. Author's intimate knowledge of the criminal courts of New York used.
- Van Buren, Maud, and K. I. Bemis, eds. *Christmas in Modern Story*. Century, 1927. \$2.50.
An anthology of Christmas stories for adults that offers some acceptable alternatives to the old favorites.
- Vance, L. J. *Lone Wolf*. Little, 1914. \$2.
Detective story.
- Van Dine, S. S., pseud. *Benson Murder Case*. Scribner, 1926. \$2.
Detective mystery solved by psychological methods. Keenly absorbing but inadvisable for neuro-psychiatric patients.
- *"Canary" Murder Case*. Scribner, 1927. \$2.
Popular detective story.
- Walpole, Hugh. *Harmer John*. Doran, 1926.
How a "foreigner" with a great faith in man-

- kind and a vision of a world made beautiful, stirs the sluggish currents of an English cathedral town.
- *Jeremy and Hamlet*. Doran, 1923. \$2.
Story of a boy and his dog.
- Wason, R. A. *Happy Hawkins*. Small, 1909. \$1.50.
Splendid western story.
- Webster, H. K. *Philopena*. Bobbs, 1926. \$2.
Diverting mystery.
- Webster, Jean. *Daddy-Long-Legs*. Century, 1912. \$1.50.
Entertaining story of a girl's college days and love affairs, told in her sprightly letters to an unknown guardian.
- *Dear Enemy*. Century, 1915. \$2.
Engaging romance written in letter form.
- Wells, H. G. *Meanwhile*. Doran, 1927. \$2.50.
Into an idyllic atmosphere of luxury and ease at a house party on the Italian Riviera, news of the British coal strike brings the breath of reality.
- Westcott, E. N. *David Harum*. Appleton. \$2.
Humorous.
- Westcott, Glenway. *Grandmothers*. Harper, 1927. \$2.
Family portrait sketching individual members of three generations with accurate detail.
- Weston, George. *Horseshoe Nails*. Dodd, 1927. \$2.
Four young New Yorkers weary of their routine "white-collar" jobs, pool their resources, both financial and mental, and adventure follows. Has all the qualifications of a good hospital book.
- Wharton, Edith. *Ethan Frome*. Scribner, 1911. \$1.
Concise study of New England character in relation to environment.
- *Twilight Sleep*. Appleton, 1927. \$2.50.
Brilliant and satirical novel of modern New York with its group of moneyed men and women.
- White, S. E. *Blazed Trail*. Doubleday. \$2.
Rough and lawless life of a ranch and lumber camp.
- *Riverman*. Doubleday. \$2.
Stirring narrative of the lumber industry in Michigan.
- White, W. P. *Sweet-Water Range*. Little, 1927. Western, with lively plot.
- *Twisted Foot*. Little, 1924. \$2.
Western thriller.
- Whitlock, Brand. *Transplanted*. Appleton, 1927. \$2.50.
Plot, concerned with international marriage, is clear and credible. Story located in northern France.
- Widdemer, Margaret. *Charis Sees it Through*. Harcourt, 1924. \$1.75.
Wholesome Americanization love story.
- *Gallant Lady*. Harcourt, 1926. \$2.
Gallant carrying-on of a girl when the casually acquired wife, supposedly dead, of her husband's war days, appears and invalidates her own happy marriage. Perfectly wholesome story of unsophisticated appeal.
- *Rose-Garden Husband*. Lippincott, 1915. \$1.
Light love story.
- Wiggin, K. D. *Mother Carey's Chickens*. Houghton, 1911. \$2.
Wholesome, pleasant story.
- *Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm*. Houghton, 1920. \$2.
Humorous story of girlhood.
- Wilder, Thornton. *Bridge of San Luis Rey*. Boni, 1927. \$2.50.
Brilliant story which takes its title from a bridge in the Andes.
- Williams, Valentine. *Eye in Attendance*. Houghton, 1927. \$2.
Mystery yarn.
- *Mr. Ramsi*. Houghton, 1926. \$2.
Good adventure.
- Wilson, H. L. *Oh, Doctor*. Cosmopolitan, 1923. \$2.
Will entertain all who read it.
- *Ruggles of Red Gap*. Doubleday, 1915. \$1.10.
Farical tale of an English manservant who is transplanted to Washington.
- Wilson, Margaret. *Able McLaughlin*. Harper, 1923. \$2.
Scene laid in Iowa. Remarkable for originality in drawing a variety of Scotch characters.
- Wister, Owen. *Lin McLean*. Harper, 1907. \$1.50.
Short stories forming a continuous narrative, a cowboy being the central figure.
- *Virginian*. Macmillan, 1904. \$2.50.
Splendid western story.
- Witwer, H. C. *Fighting Blood*. Grosset, 1923. 75c.
From soda clerk to light-heavyweight champion the story moves good-naturedly.
- Wodehouse, P. G. *Carry on, Jeeves*. Doran, 1927. \$2.
Short stories in which Jeeves, the astute and infallible valet, rescues his master from embarrassing predicaments.
- *Jeeves*. Doran, 1923. \$2.
The valet Jeeves and many a laughable episode.
- *Leave It to Psmith*. Doran, 1924. \$2.
Bubbling farce made all the funnier by the mystery element.
- Wren, P. C. *Beau Geste*. Stokes, 1925. \$2.
Exceptionally clever mystery story whose chief interest is in its vivid descriptions of life in the French Foreign legion.
- *Beau Sabreur*. Stokes, 1926. \$2.
Continuation of *Beau Geste*. The first part is told from the point of view of a French officer and is better written than the latter half, which is more broadly humorous and incredible.
- Wright, H. B. *Calling of Dan Matthews*. Grosset, 1909. 75c.
Ozark mountain story with religious emphasis.
- *Winning of Barbara Worth*. Grosset, 1911. 75c.
Story of rival reclamation companies in the Colorado desert.
- Wylie, Elinor. *Orphan Angel*. Knopf, 1926. \$2.50.
Based on the supposition that the poet Shelley was not drowned but was rescued by a passing

ship, this whimsical story traces his adventures in America.

Yates, Dornford. *Jonah & Co.* Minton, 1927. \$2.

"Lively story of three young English couples who spend a winter together in the south of

France. Sparkling dialog and amusing situations involving a motor car make it delightful light reading."

Young, F. B. *Sea Horses.* Knopf, 1925. \$2.50. Sea story excellent in its characterization of a captain and crew.

THOUGHTS ON THE LIBRARY AND ADULT EDUCATION

To the Editor of the LIBRARY JOURNAL:

In common with many others we librarians have been much concerned over a new phrase, "Adult Education." I regret to say that we have been moved to worship the phrase, and to speak of it almost with bated breath. In our quasi-religious frenzy we imagine that in the world with us is now a vast multitude of young men and women, limited in the formal education of the schools; but, awakened now to the verities of life, yearning to become "educated," and not knowing how to go about it.

Meanwhile the facts are plain before us:—those who have gained in school the elements of the technique of reading, and do not read, are simply non-readers. Advice, guidance, lists and exhortations rarely make a reader of a non-reader. We cannot make a learner of one who does not wish for learning. Those who, knowing the technique of reading, have reached high adolescence in this print-pervaded land and still do not see that "education" is not merely of the schools, but of the very daily round of life itself; and still fail to realize that they have been "educated" for a thousand hours by their life of doing, reading and thinking against one hour of being taught by a teacher in a class in school—those grown-ups who have not seen yet these facts, never will.

And, again, if the impact of life, and the impact of the daily newspapers which now fall by thousands into every one's hands, have not shown to every adolescent that there are things worth knowing which he does not know; that there are ideas worth pondering if he will but ponder; that he can learn by reading if he will but read and think, and that education awaits his taking if he will but use his mind to take it—if an adolescent has not got those ideas into his head by the time he is twenty-two, the chance is slight that he ever will.

No, our newspapers alone—even tho they are but the inevitably frail products of a frail humanity—are daily pouring adult education into the heads of every alert and seeking and receptive soul in the land. And my criticism of the whole adult education fad is to this effect: that it neglected to look at the facts before it began its work; that it failed to note that education is where the seeker finds it and is not solely found in classes in schools and in "courses."

We librarians have been moved by a phrase to think of education as a process which can go on only with the aid of teachers and courses of study; and that, consequently, we can help adults to become educated only by personal contact with them. No library has a staff large enough to spare more than a few minutes each day to the special demands of each of a few inquirers. To do what the shibboleth "Adult Education," as we are now interpreting it, asks us to do, that is, to act as guides and teachers to all the adults we can persuade to come and ask us what they should read, and how, and to quiz them on their progress and advise them from day to day—all that is quite impossible. Libraries have not now and never will have an income which will suffice to do it. Meanwhile, alas! we scorn to work with correspondence schools, whose chiefs are soiling their hands by making money out of their jobs—tho those schools have more students, who are paying their hard-won earnings for books and advice, than are entered in all the colleges and universities of the land.

And meanwhile, again, newspapers and journals are daily putting the raw material of all the education that print can give into the hands of millions; indeed, even into the hands of those young men and women who have been led by these same newspapers to see that they left school too soon! And upon not a few of these newspaper pupils comes at last the obvious thought, that education is primarily a subjective process, and that no teachers are so competent to teach them as they are to teach themselves!

J. C. DANA, Librarian,
Newark Free Public Library.

FREE ON REQUEST PRINCETON READING LISTS

THE Princeton University Library has gathered together forty or fifty representative books in seventeen fields of study to form a "Departmental Orientation Collection." This collection is intended to serve a double purpose. First, to include books of general interest, or popular, or inspirational value, to attract undergraduates not already specially interested in a particular subject. Second, most of the departments have

included at least a few typical examples of thoroughgoing scholarly work for the benefit of students of more training.

With the feeling that the titles would prove of interest to alumni, the *Princeton Alumni Weekly* has made arrangements for the publication of the lists which were used in assembling the Orientation Collection. Eight of them appeared in the *Weekly's* issue of June 22, 1928; the remaining nine were presented in the number for October 19.

A few copies of these two issues of the *Weekly* are available for distribution by Princeton University Library.

TECHNOLOGY PERIODICALS

The Public Library of Chisholm, Minn., (Agnes V. Johnson, librarian), has the following material for free distribution to any library willing to pay the postage.

Engineering and Mining Journal. Jan. 3, 1914-Dec. 25, 1915 (May 2, 1914; Apr. 24, June 12 and 19, Aug. 14, 21, 28; Oct. 9, 1915 missing); Jan. 6, 1917-Dec. 26, 1925 (Jan. 26, May 18, 1918; Apr., May, June, 1920; Dec. 18, 25, 1920; June 28, 1924 missing).

Iron Age. July 1-Sept. 30 1915 (Sept. 9, missing); Jan. 6-Mar. 30; July 6-Dec. 28, 1916. (Nov. 9, 16, 23, 30; Dec. 7, 14 missing); July 5, 1923-Dec. 23, 1925 (Oct. 11, 23; Sept. 18, 1924 missing).

Electrical World. Jan. 1, 1924-Dec. 26, 1925 (Sept. 27, 1924; Sept. 12, 1925, missing).

Railway Age Gazette. 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924 and 1925.

American Machinist. Jan. 7, 1921-Dec. 31, 1925 (Jan. 7; Feb. 17, 1921, and all Dec., 1922, missing).

A. L. A. EXHIBIT OF LIBRARY WORK WITH CHILDREN

The exhibit, prepared by the Children's Librarians' Section of the American Library Association and displayed at the West Baden Conference is now available for publicity purposes to libraries and other educational institutions. It is composed of posters, on which are mounted examples of the various activities to be found in the average children's room of a public library, in city, town and village. Storytelling, instruction in the use of the library, honor roll reading, club work, county work, etc., are attractively displayed on the posters with colored stencil lettering. The exhibit is packed in an especially made box, suited to traveling purposes, and may be set up as a unified whole or in parts according to the amount of space provided.

The only expense involved is the payment of transportation charges from the last point of

exhibition. At present the display is in the south, and libraries in that region and in the southwest may wish to make use of this opportunity of securing the exhibit. Applications should be addressed to the chairman of the Exhibit Committee, Helen Martin, School of Library Science, Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

PUBLICATIONS ON LEGAL AID WORK

The following publications relating to legal aid work in the United States will be sent free to libraries willing to pay transportation charges. Notices should be sent to John S. Bradway, Secretary of the National Association of Legal Aid Organizations, 133 South 12th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Proceedings of the Central Committee, December, 1922.

Proceedings of the Annual Conventions of the National Association of Legal Aid Organizations, 1923, 1925, 1926, 1927.

Reports of Committees of the National Association of Legal Aid Organizations, 1924, 1926, 1927, 1928.

A. L. A. MEMBERSHIP

THE new Handbook of the American Library Association, issued as the November number of the *Bulletin*, records a membership of 10,526, representing a net increase of 476 over that of last year, and practically doubling the total (5307) of seven years ago.

Proportional increase by classes is greatest in the case of library school students, who have increased from 89 to 220 and of commercial agents who have increased from 86 to 146, while heads of departments and branch librarians have decreased by 756 from 2550 to 1794, this decrease being more than compensated, however, by the increase in two other large classes, namely chief librarians who have risen from 2479 to 2885 and assistants from 2751 to 3222.

Trustees number 313 as compared with 280 last year, institutional members are 1249 as compared with 1201—possibly most of these new institutions being the 44 library commissions formerly listed separately; instructors in library schools have increased by a score to 110 and "others" have strengthened their forces by nearly twenty-five per cent—from 440 to 545.

Regionally New York State naturally leads with 1389 members, followed by Ohio with 829, Illinois with 809, and California 702. Massachusetts 710, Pennsylvania 631, Michigan 551, Indiana 407, Wisconsin 365 and New Jersey 343. Of the 137 "foreign" members the largest group is in Hawaii with 31, followed by France with 15, England 12, and China and India each

with 8, the three-score-odd remaining members living in thirty different countries.

New members joining within the year total 1789 and 1319 resigned or were dropped, both numbers comparing very well with the conservative figures of ten years ago when the total membership for the year was 3380 as compared with 3346 for 1917 and 306 new members were

added while 262 were dropped from the list.

Probably few associations of the same size have their membership organized for professional service as is the A. L. A. which has in addition to its honorary officers and a large headquarters staff, an advisory council of about 150 members and some 620 members serving on 75 committees.

EFFECTIVE EXHIBIT OF A PRIVATE CIRCULATION LIBRARY

THE Providence Athenaeum had an exhibit for one week last fall in the lobby of the Rhode Island Hospital Trust Company's banking rooms.

The Athenaeum which is open to shareholders and subscribers aims to be a larger home library, and the aim of the exhibit was to suggest that it was a pleasant place for old and young to come and read.

The book-case at the left contained popular new books and some old favorites, the one at the right was used for children's books, while the exhibition case contained a few interesting old books, including an old charging book open at the entries just one hundred years ago, and a copy of Bickham's *Universal Penman* which

was used by the teachers of Providence in the eighteenth century.

The old chair proved quite an attraction and lovers of antiques paused for a second look and learned that the library also had books on the subject.

Photographs of some of the paintings and other art works in the library were mounted on grey cardboard and hung on the dark blue velvet curtain which served as a background. The portrait of Sarah Helen Whitman was among these, as the literary courtship of Poe and Mrs. Whitman is the chief literary association of the Athenaeum.

Circulars giving a few facts about the library and its privileges were conveniently placed for distribution.



THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

NOVEMBER 15, 1928

In the international library field, 1929 promises to be a year of first importance. The international congress of librarians and bibliographers at Rome, now scheduled for the last two weeks in June, will be the first of the international gatherings provided for at the Edinburgh meeting last year, under the presidency of Dr. Collijn of Stockholm. The local arrangements are under way in the hands of Dr. Fago of Rome, and the Executive Board of the A. L. A. has designated as possible delegates the association officials, ex-presidents and members of the international committees, from whose numbers a fairly large and representative delegation will, it is hoped, go to Rome. Meantime, largely by help of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, the co-operative work in the Vatican Library will be continued, with promise of excellent result by the time of the meeting of the congress. Mr. John Ansteinssohn of Trondhjem, Norway, who was associated with the American librarians in Rome, will remain at work there on the catalog of printed books, particularly thru the Library of Congress cards which have been supplied to the Vatican Library, and the work of the expert on the summary index to the Greek manuscripts is so promising that the Vatican Library is designating two others for like work on the Latin manuscripts. Chairman Bishop of the A. L. A. Committee on International Relations is co-operating in the preparation of the program for the congress, and he is also chairman of the Sub-Committee on the Exchange of Librarians, Assistants and Students of Librarianship.

MEANTIME. M. Roland-Marcel, who is proving a great administrator and whose journeying in America, particularly his acquaintance with the Library of Congress, is proving most resultful, is planning an American library exposition at the Bibliothèque Nationale, in which doubtless he will have the co-operation of the American

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

Library in Paris and the Paris Library School, as well as that pledged by the A. L. A. authorities here. This exhibition may perhaps be arranged in time for inspection on the way to or from Rome, and a travel party from America is already in plan, whose itinerary may possibly include the Spanish international exhibition at Seville for which the U. S. army band has already been making researches in the indigenous music of Latin America which it will play during a tour in Europe and a long stay at Seville. International progress has also been made thru the meeting of the Institut International de Bibliographie which was held at Cologne in September, where a transfer to Geneva of the great international repertory at Brussels was authorized and where another meeting at London, possibly in 1929, was arranged for under the chairmanship of Professor Pollard, of London University and the London library school, who is now president of the Institut International. In national relations, substantial progress may be expected thruout France under the leadership of M. Roland-Marcel, in Spain under the impetus of the Seville exposition and Italy will probably be quickened by the inspiration of the Rome congress, while Germany, led by Dr. Krüss, is also making fresh headway. The prospects for progress in the Near East are encouragingly stated in the survey made by Miss Florence Wilson for the European Centre of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace which has just been published, and in the Far East, it is interesting to note that Japanese librarians are endeavoring to make the promotion of libraries thruout Japan on the American plan a memorial feature of this coronation year, while China has just dedicated a new university library and has great schemes for future library development.

No better illustration of the extraordinary development of business libraries could be afforded than the gathering at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York as a part of the annual meeting of the National Manufacturers Association. The two hundred persons present were significantly welcomed by the president of that association and doubtless its members were impressed by the attendance and interest at this branch of their meeting in a way that will greatly stimulate the further increase of libraries within the business field. Under the bright leadership of Mrs. Perkins, a live wire in this special field, a program was presented which was stimulating to those present and well repaid their attendance.

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THE Massachusetts Library Club at the Amherst joint meeting took definite ground in favor of the solution of book censorship embodied in the Sedgwick Bill, which will come before the Massachusetts legislature at the beginning of the year. This is the bill which proposes that, instead of basing condemnation of a book on specific passages, the general character and trend of the book should be considered in the verdict, and it is found preferable to what is known as the Boston booksellers' bill which sets up such elaborate machinery for trial as possibly to make the plan inoperative. An important contribution to the subject is made in the recent book entitled *To the Pure by two New York lawyers* who have been concerned in the defense of certain books, which has been admirably reviewed by a distinguished librarian, who has previously taken large part in the censorship discussion, in the *Publishers' Weekly* for November 10th. The reviewer gives the book credit for presenting much information and argument in good shape, while rebuking other features. The title suggests the frequent misuse of the saying from which it is taken and the conclusion of the authors that "obscurity is only a superstition of the day—the modern counterpart of ancient witchcraft" is scarcely to be accepted as final. It may be fairly said, from the library point of view, that while librarians object to the censorship, past or proposed, which involves decision by those least qualified to judge, they are thoroly interested in giving the best reading to their public and do not desire to circulate books which may be injurious to public morals and especially unfortunate for circulation among the younger folk.

"The finest house in town" was the phrase which best described the new building for the Jones Library at Amherst dedicated on the first of the month, and to this may be added the phrase, "the most sumptuous village library anywhere to be seen." The gift to Amherst by Samuel Minot Jones, a native of the town who made his fortune in Chicago, gave to the three trustees under his will a sum which, after the death of his son without issue, amounted, principal and interest, to three-quarters of a million dollars—an extraordinary example of the happy tendency in America toward the endowment in their native towns of public libraries as the best memorials of those who went thence to make fortunes elsewhere. After expending a quarter million on the building and its equipment, which is adequate and complete as a community house as well as a village library, there is left a half million dollars for permanent endow-

ment, enabling Amherst with its two collegiate libraries at Amherst College and at the Massachusetts Agricultural College to hold the place on the library map which W. I. Fletcher long ago earned for his town. The joint meeting of the Massachusetts and Western Massachusetts Library clubs following the dedication was the occasion of much congratulation to the trustees on their remarkable accomplishment, and many had come earlier to Amherst to take part in the dedicatory ceremonies, which included the delightful address of the veteran Prof. Tyler, chairman of the Board, and that of Dr. Williamson, the principal speaker, whose contribution was of the rank of an A. L. A. presidential address. Librarian Green was made the subject of deserved congratulations on the achievement which was so largely his accomplishment. A distinctive feature of the building is the children's wing or corner which includes a children's room, and above it a large room for story telling and a smaller one where children may exhibit their postage stamp collections or the like and the work of the Junior Achievement League may be displayed.

OPPORTUNITIES

The United States Civil Service Commission announces an open competitive examination for Associate Librarian.

The examination is to fill a vacancy in the U. S. Naval Observatory, Navy Department; a vacancy in the Bureau of Education, Interior Department, Washington, D. C.; and vacancies occurring in positions requiring similar qualifications. The entrance salary is \$3,200 a year. Higher-salaried positions are filled thru promotion. For the present vacancies men are desired.

Competitors will not be required to report for examination at any place, but will be rated on their education, experience, and fitness, and a thesis or publication to be filed by the applicant.

Applications must be on file with the Civil Service Commission at Washington, D. C., not later than December 12.

Full information may be obtained from the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C., or from the secretary of the United States Civil Service Board of Examiners at the post office or customhouse in any city.

A civil service examination will be held at St. Paul on December 29 for senior branch librarian. Residence requirements waived.

Present salary limits: \$142 to \$172 a month; preferred age limits: 25 to 40.

The examination will be held at 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 29, in Room 10, first floor of the Madison School, Tenth and Minnesota Sts., St. Paul. Arrangements will be made, if possible, for non-resident applicants to take the examination in their own cities. Non-resident applications will be accepted subject to this condition.

For application blank and further information, call at the Civil Service Bureau, Room 201, Commerce Bldg. Questions used in former examinations are open for public inspection at the Bureau.

On the same day an examination will be held for

junior branch librarian. Present salary limits: \$131.40 to \$161.40 a month. Preferred age limits: 25 to 40. A United States Civil Service Examination for a hospital librarian is announced.

Applications must be on file with the U. S. Civil Service Commission at Washington, D. C., not later than November 27, 1928.

The date for assembling of competitors will be stated on their admission cards, and will be about fifteen days after the close of receipt of applications. Persons who enter this examination will not be admitted to any other examination for which the receipt of applications closes on the date stated above.

The entrance salary in the Veterans' Bureau for hospital librarian will be \$1,800 a year, instead of \$1,680 a year as stated in original announcement No. 255; and the entrance salary for assistant hospital

librarian, which may also be filled from this examination, will be \$1,620 a year, instead of \$1,500 a year as stated in original announcement No. 255.

Experienced librarian, college and library school graduate desires a change. Five years at Library of Congress, seven years reorganizer and chief of catalog departments in two large public libraries, also teacher of cataloging. Administrative position or chief of a large department, public, college or school libraries. L. J. 20.

Wanted: Position in small public library as desk attendant with some reference work. Qualifications: Three years as student assistant in college library in middle west; Library training school, University of Iowa; two years as librarian of small college library of Pacific coast. Address, Leona Watland, Oskaloosa, Iowa.

AMONG LIBRARIANS

Randolph G. Adams, librarian of the William L. Clements Library at the University of Michigan, has prepared a descriptive list of the original manuscripts and printed documents of maps used by Sir Henry Clinton while in command of the British forces operating in North America during the War for Independence, 1775-1782 (*British Headquarters Maps and Sketches*. Ann Arbor: The Library, 1928. bds., 144p., frontis., \$1.50).

Ruba M. Ashmore, 1924 Wisconsin, for four years librarian of the Roosevelt High School, Des Moines, since her graduation, joined the Madison Free Library in September, and has been assigned to work in the school branch libraries.

Edwin White Gaillard, who had been special investigator of the New York Public Library since 1913 and previously supervisor of work with schools and libraries of the Webster Free Public Library, died on October 27, after an illness of several months.

James R. Gullledge, formerly librarian of the North Carolina State College, has succeeded Whitman Davis as librarian of the Mississippi A. & M. College.

Anita M. Hostetter, formerly on the A. L. A. Curriculum Study Staff, is now at Headquarters, as executive assistant to the Board of Education for Librarianship.

Natalie Huhn, 1921 Wisconsin, is assisting in the organization of the new B. F. Jones Memorial Library, Aliquippa, Pa.

Winifred Knapp, 1913 Illinois, has resigned as head cataloger of Indiana University library to accept a position in the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration.

Blanche Shelp Lupfer, 1917 Wisconsin, is reorganizing the library of the National Institute, Panama City.

Georgie G. McAfee, librarian of the Public Library of Lima, Ohio, has been appointed chairman of the Library Extension Committee for the General Federation of Women's Clubs succeeding Mrs. Allen H. Suggett of San Francisco who has completed her four-year term of office.

Alice Mayes, librarian of the University of Mississippi, suffered a broken back in a train wreck early in June and has had to resign her position. Her condition is somewhat improved and it is hoped that eventually she may be able to return to the University Library where she will find a position awaiting her as one of the assistants.

Catherine J. Pierce, 1927 Columbia, reference librarian at North Carolina College for Women, recently appointed instructor of library science in the new department of Library Science recently organized at the same institution.

Eugenia Raymond was, previous to her recent appointment as A. L. A. Headquarters librarian, branch librarian and part-time technical reference worker at the Dayton Public Library, and not head of the order department as reported in our number for October 15.

Ruth Sankee, 1921 B. L. S. Illinois, librarian of the Senior High School, Decatur, Ill., appointed assistant professor of library science in the new department of Library Science at the North Carolina College for Women.

Oscar George Sonneck, director of publications and vice-president of the firm of G. Schirmer, Inc., who died suddenly at the end of

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October following an operation, was head of the music division of the Library of Congress for the fifteen years, from 1902 to 1917, and it was during that period that his classification scheme and most of his researches in early American music were published.

Julia C. Stockett, 1914 Wisconsin, has joined

the staff of the Vancouver Public Library as reference librarian.

Grace Lane Young, 1909 Wisconsin, after organizing the library of the School of the Ozarks, Hollister, Mo., during the summer, went to Carleton College Library, Northfield, Minn., as assistant librarian on October 1.

CURRENT LITERATURE AND BIBLIOGRAPHY

THE decision of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh to purchase Library of Congress cards beginning next January instead of printing its own cards will necessitate a change in the *Monthly Bulletin*, which will in future appear as a selective list of about twelve pages. The present average of 69 pages to a number was made possible only by the fact that the type for annotated entries of practically every book added to the library had already been set for the printing of the catalog cards.

THE Cambridge (England) Public Library *Record* in its quarterly numbers successfully accomplishes the aims set forth in the first number—to present a series of suggested courses of reading, illustrated articles on local history and topography, annotated lists of additions to the library, and announcements of lectures, exhibitions and other matters relating to the library. The courses of reading, which in scope and treatment bring to mind the A. L. A.'s "Reading With a Purpose" series, have included History, by G. Lowes Dickinson; the Old Testament, by Stanley A. Cook; Economics, by W. S. Thatcher, and Botany, by H. Godwin. The first issue of the second volume contains a Shakespeare reading course by Herbert Spencer Robinson and an interesting, tho unannotated, list of books on travel in the English Counties.

BRIEF statistics of American public and society libraries "based on latest U. S. Government statistics available" are included in the 1928-9 volume of *The Librarian's Guide*, edited by Mark Meredith and published by the Literary Year Book Press, 67 Dale Street, Liverpool.

For the most part one-line entries suffice to give the number of volumes, of borrowers' cards, of income dollars and expenditure dollars, and with few exceptions one institution (the public library) only represents each municipality. Among exceptional cities are Washington which has nine institutions (including the Cosmos Club) but excluding the library of Congress, Buffalo with four, New York with three, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh with two each, and the outstanding exceptions to the en-

try-a-line rule are two California County libraries which are accorded twelve and five lines respectively.

UPON completion of the current volume the *Technical Book Review Index* of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh will be discontinued. The facts which have brought about this decision of the Board of Trustees are these: The average cost of printing each copy of the *Index* is \$1.27, exclusive of the cost of preparing the material. The use of the *Index* is almost entirely outside the city of Pittsburgh, of the 220 copies distributed only thirteen copies going to Pittsburghers, while the Carnegie Library is a city library, maintained exclusively by city taxes, and in the opinion of the Board, the publishing of the *Index* at an annual loss of over \$2000 is not fair to Pittsburgh tax payers.

THE A. L. A. Committee on the *List of Serial Publications of Foreign Governments* issued early in November the first part of its preliminary and tentative list, containing a record of the documents of the Latin American countries. Copies of this list will be sent to a selected list of libraries, which presumably have collections of these documents, for checking. Any library not included in the distribution which may desire to have its holdings recorded should bring the matter to the attention of the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. J. T. Gerould, librarian of Princeton University.

As it is impossible, so early as this to establish the price at which the final edition is to be sold, subscriptions will not be solicited for several months. As each national list is completed, it will be issued in preliminary form and sent to the checking libraries.

During the coming year Miss Gregory will be in Europe completing, in the various national capitals, the record which she has already compiled in the libraries of Washington and New York. Her address will be: in care Brown Shipley & Company, 123 Pall Mall, London; correspondence relating to the *List* should, however, be addressed to the Chairman of the Committee.

LIBRARY ORGANIZATIONS

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUBS

A JOINT meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club and the Western Massachusetts Library Club held at the new Jones Library at Amherst, was a memorable one. The opening of a fine new library building containing many new and thought-provoking features; the large and representative group of over three hundred library workers present and the carefully planned program made for satisfaction and enjoyment far above the average.

In addition to the many present from western and central Massachusetts and Connecticut, some seventy-five librarians came from Boston and its vicinity.

After luncheon, everyone started with keen anticipation for the Jones Library, just completed and solemnly dedicated with appropriate ceremonies the night before. Doubtless this distinctive contribution to library architecture and thought will be carefully described and illustrated in our library publications but only a visit can give one the real picture.

The afternoon program opened with a brief welcome from Harold T. Dougherty, president of the Western Massachusetts Library Club, who presented Dr. John M. Tyler, chairman of the trustees of the Jones Library, who gave the official welcome, and with humor, wisdom and enthusiasm, explained the growth of ideas and institutions in the Connecticut valley. First come the churches, the center of all village interests, then the academies and colleges trying to answer that homely expression "I want to know," while lastly there has developed into prominence the public library with a great field of social service and a splendid educational opportunity.

Following, Dr. Frederick Tuckerman gave an historical survey of the old libraries of Amherst, tracing the slow growth and evolution from the first circulation library, open twelve hours during the year, to the active town library whose work has been taken over by the Jones Library; and Mr. R. R. Bowker congratulated Amherst on its library, the blossom and fruit of the town itself, as a gift of a local citizen.

Charles R. Green, librarian of the Jones Library, then explained that a relative proportion of time spent on the survey of the library history of Amherst would give eight-tenths of a minute to describe the comparatively short history of the Jones Library. Mr. Green called attention to the three young men going west, making their fortunes and then presenting to their home towns of Conway, Massachusetts; Amherst, Massachusetts, and Bradford, Connec-

ticut, splendid libraries. He briefly traced the growth of the Jones Library idea from its start in rooms in the old Amherst House in September, 1921, the fire in 1926, and the fitting up of a colonial house as temporary quarters, and the erection of the new building. Community interests and activities have been an important part of the library program, not just building up a large stock of books.

The closing address of the afternoon session was by Truman R. Temple, librarian, Public Library of Hartford, who, speaking on "A Librarian's Confession of Faith" inspired everyone present with enthusiasm. He paid fine tribute to the library service of William I. Fletcher, Caroline M. Hewins and William E. Foster. Several striking illustrations of the value of reading were given: Mark Twain picking up a printed leaf from the road and becoming an author; William Lyon Phelps inquiring for Oliver Optic from Frank Gay at Hartford and going away happily with a copy of Julius Caesar, which stirred his literary longings and ambition; a troublesome boy who found his bent from a book of electrical experiments and became governor of Connecticut. The whole session was an inspiring session making for better librarianship.

In the evening, after music by Mrs. Ray Rees Cance, violinist, had been enjoyed, Dr. Leslie G. Burgevin, professor of English Literature at Mount Holyoke College, spoke on "Some Tendencies of the Modern Novel." The three tendencies described with their causes, advantages and limitations were realism, the new psychology, and the debunking school. This simple, natural and scholarly discussion was thoroughly enjoyed. Next came "A Book Committee Meeting" held as a social hour program by eight members of the Boston Book Review Club under the direction of Mrs. Bertha V. Hartzell. Here, points from the lecture just given, suddenly appeared from strange angles to the delight of the audience and the evident amusement of the lecturer. Some new books were solemnly passed upon by a serious-minded board who judged on the basis of titles and occasionally quarreled among themselves.

On the following morning after a brief business session a talk on new and prospective books of the fall season by Mr. Vernor M. Schenck of the H. R. Hunting Co. received close attention, many notes being taken. Mr. Frank P. Morse, director of the Division of Secondary Education of the State Department of Education, discussing the importance of books to the schools, showed the need of greater development of high

school libraries. Many practical suggestions as to how the public library could serve the community more effectively were made. Mr. Morse emphasized that with adults the library could do its best work with an individual voluntary type of education rather than attempting to conduct formal education.

Abridged from the report of

HAROLD A. WOOSTER, *Recording Secretary,*
Massachusetts Library Club.

WEST VIRGINIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

THE fourteenth annual meeting of the West Virginia Library Association was held at Bluefield, October 19-20. The principal address was made by Hermann H. B. Meyer, director of the Legislative Reference Service of the Library of Congress, who spoke on West Virginia in relation to the present library movement. Etta Roberts of Wheeling gave an interesting account of her recent visit to some European libraries and Vivian Reynolds of Fairmont discussed library instruction in high schools and normal schools.

Officers elected for the year 1928-29: President, Ada Florence Fitch of the Fairmont Public Library; vice-president, (Miss) Lewis Harvey of the Huntington Public Library; secretary, Vivian Reynolds of the Fairmont State Normal School Library; treasurer, Ora Peters of the Concord State Normal School Library.

VIVIAN REYNOLDS, *Secretary.*

KENTUCKY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

BOWLING GREEN was the scene of the nineteenth annual meeting of the Kentucky Library Association, October 11-12. The Western State Teachers' College campus, with its new buildings and its ideal location on the hill, gave a delightful setting to the meeting. The ideal autumn weather and scenery added materially to the enjoyment of the members. Meetings were held in the college auditorium and in the new college library.

The session opened at noon, October 11, with a book luncheon, Margie M. Helm, president, in the chair. The book review round table was led by Cora M. Beatty, Louisville. In the late afternoon the visitors were invited to tea in the Cedar House on the hill. This house, formerly used for the library, is now used for recreation. It is an artistic rustic building of hand hewn cedar logs, built by the students.

At the evening session in the college auditorium, Joy E. Morgan, editor of the *Journal* of the National Education Association, Washington, D. C., discussed the changing ideals in education and dwelt on the value of libraries in

connection with education and the necessity for trained librarians in the new curricula of schools.

The public libraries section was held on Friday with Fannie C. Rawson as chairman. Talks were made by Alma J. L'Hommedieu, Covington, on the library work under way in Kenton County; Mrs. H. G. Henderson, Georgetown, on progress made in library work in Georgetown; Lillie Jacob, Lebanon, on the effort made by Lebanon, to secure a tax supported library and a library building; Cora M. Beatty, Louisville, on the scope of the Louisville Free Public Library Training Class; Cleo Murphy, Lebanon, on story-telling; Mrs. A. S. Gardiner, Scottsville, on her unique method of acquiring a book collection without funds; Elizabeth S. Woodson, Louisville, on advertising the library, especially adapted for the small library and accomplished without cost to the library; and Bernice W. Bell, Louisville, on the state-wide contest for Book Week. A story entitled "Magic Tooth," written by Miss Bell, containing more than a hundred hidden titles of children's books, will be used in this contest.

The school libraries section, led by Margaret Bailey, chairman, had profitable discussions on the problems of library instruction; the use of student help in the school and college libraries; inter-library loans; and periodicals in the library. Miss Sarah C. N. Bogle, assistant secretary of the A. L. A., discussed briefly the standards for school libraries adopted by the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, and stressed the fact that these standards must be met by 1930.

Gabrielle Robertson, Bowling Green, talked on her experiences as readers' adviser in the Washington (D. C.) Public Library. Henry L. Cecil, of the National Association of Book Publishers, New York, followed with a talk on books and reading.

The final session Friday evening opened with music, followed by an address by Miss Bogle, who spoke on "The Opportunity of the Librarian Today," dwelling upon the opportunity for library work even in simple beginnings.

New officers elected for two years are: first vice-president, Mrs. May McClure Currey, Louisville; secretary-treasurer, Margaret Bailey, Murray; directors, Mary Estelle Reid, Richmond, Alma J. L'Hommedieu, Covington.

EDNA J. GRAUMAN, *Secretary.*

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

FIRST sessions of the annual meeting of the Michigan Library Association at Lansing, October 17-19 were given over to literary topics. L. P. Waldo of the Michigan State College discussed "Tendencies in the Modern European

Novel" and Frank Tompkins of the College of the City of Detroit gave an address on "Changing Ideas in the Drama," followed by a related paper on "Changing Technique in the Drama," by Chester Kuhn of the same institution. Annie A. Pollard of the Grand Rapids Public Library gave "Impressions of the Institute of Politics at Williamstown."

The Thursday morning meeting opened with a business session, which was followed by an interesting talk by Viola Olson, of the Bessemer Township Library of Ramsay, about her work in the upper peninsula with a book truck.

In the evening, a banquet in celebration of the hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Michigan State Library was held at the Hotel Olds. Mrs. Mary E. Frankhauser, state librarian, presided. William Webb, president of the Association, gave a short address of welcome. Hon. Louis H. Fead, chief justice of the Michigan Supreme Court, told of the indebtedness of Michigan law to the law department of the State Library. Linda A. Eastman, president of the American Library Association, brought the greetings of that organization. She emphasized the worth of libraries in effecting better international understanding. George B. Utley, librarian of the Newberry Library, Chicago, gave an address on "Keeping Up With the Procession." The great strides already made in the library world were emphasized. Adult education there has always been, but realization of it as a prime necessity in national life was never so strong as now. Henry E. Dunnack, state librarian of Maine, and president of the National Association of State Librarians, made a plea for library extension to all the rural and other unserved portions of the United States. He urged all librarians to help all school children gain at least a rudimentary training in the use of reference material.

The Friday morning meeting consisted of five round tables and group meetings.

The following officers were elected: President, William Webb, librarian, Flint Public Library; first vice-president, Elizabeth Knapp, superintendent of Children's Work, Detroit Public Library; second vice-president, Alice B. Clapp, librarian, Sault Ste. Marie Public Library; secretary, Georgia S. Davis, chief of Order Department, Grand Rapids Public Library; treasurer, Cora E. Lindow, State Library, Lansing.

ST. LOUIS CHAPTER OF THE A. L. A.

THE St. Louis chapter of the American Library Association held its first meeting of the 1928-1929 season on Wednesday evening, October 24, in the library of the St. Louis Medical Society. The program consisted of two addresses, one by Dr. Amand Ravold on the history of the

medical society and its library, and the other by Dr. Robert E. Schlueter on extra-medical activities of some physicians, notably in the field of literature. The enthusiasm manifest at this first meeting presages a successful season for the St. Louis chapter.

LEON CARNOVSKY, *Secretary*.

MINNESOTA AND NORTH DAKOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATIONS

A SUCCESSFUL joint convention was held by the Minnesota and North Dakota Library Associations in Moorhead and Fargo, October 9-11. Ideal weather, interesting and inspiring programs, and well planned social functions contributed to the success of the conference. The guest of honor was Dr. George H. Locke of Toronto, former president of the A. L. A., who in his address, "What Can the Public Reasonably Expect of the Library?" emphasized the fact that the library should furnish opportunity for everyone, regardless of wealth and social status, to develop what talents he has, and that a library does not usually suffer from lack of funds if it is meeting real needs in the community. At the Wednesday evening session Dr. Locke also described "The Wanderings of a Librarian," an account of his recent travels in Great Britain on the occasion of the British Library Association's Jubilee Anniversary, at which he represented the librarians of the United States and Canada. Other addresses were given by Dean A. E. Minard of the State Agricultural College, Fargo, who spoke on "The Adventure of Knowledge," and by W. L. Stockwell, president of the Fargo Public Library, who discussed "The Responsibility of the Public Toward the Library." Dr. J. L. Coulter, president of the Agricultural College, addressed the convention on the topic "Leisure Time."

Professional topics covered a wide range, with round tables on book distribution and county library service, reports of progress from both states, a talk on "Library Training in the Northwest," by Frank K. Walter, librarian of the University of Minnesota, and papers on adult education by Clara Richards of the Grand Masonic Library, Fargo, and on the elimination of the undesirable from present-day fiction, by Augusta Stair of the Hosmer Branch Library, Minneapolis. One session was held in the library of the State Teachers' College, Moorhead, where Blanche Loudon and Agnes Carlson, teachers in the training school, had prepared an excellent demonstration program by pupils of the fifth and sixth grades on "The Evolution of a Book."

The following officers were elected: Minnesota Library Association: President, Dorothy

Concluded on page 958

“Colonial Shelf Stool Very Useful and Attractive” says

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF IOWA CITY

Mrs. Jessie B. Gordon
Librarian
Iowa City, Iowa

Mr. N. D. BASSETT,
Demco Library Supplies,
Madison, Wis.

Dear Sir:

The little Demco shelf stools
which we bought from you
have proved very useful and
are very attractive too.

Very truly yours,

JESSIE B. GORDON,
Librarian.



The Colonial Shelf or Stack Stool
is an article of beauty as well as of
daily usefulness.

It is just the right height for the
average girl to reach the top shelf
easily.

Its slanting legs and proper weight
make it sturdy. In fact one need not
be afraid to step on it at any point as
“Safety” is one of its salient charac-
teristics.

The reader also finds it convenient
to sit on while at the shelf scanning
books.

Due to the fact that it is made of
quarter-sawed oak and is compara-
tively light, it can be easily toted from
one place to another.

It has a light antique oak finish.
Also available in **unfinished** white oak.

Dimensions: 18 inches long, 10
inches deep and 10 inches high.

PRICE

No. 730, each.....	\$3.60
3 stools, each.....	3.30
6 stools, each.....	3.10
12 stools, each.....	2.90

Let us send you one on approval

Demco Library Supplies Madison, Wisconsin

LIBRARY WORK

A STRAIGHT VIEW OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES

FLETCHER PRATT'S "Glance at the Public Libraries" in the June *American Mercury* is not myopic, according to Helen E. Haines, whose "Glance Again at the Public Libraries" appears in the October *Pacific Monthly*. It is astigmatic. "The optic nerve is sound, but the vision fails to focus and the image is distorted. I should like to compare Mr. Pratt's impression of our public libraries with the image as it appears in a more fairly adjusted lens." And doing this, Miss Haines builds up a picture which is more familiar to the normal user of American public libraries. Branch libraries are seen as community centers and not as easy berths for political appointees. The "mouldering stacks of books that no one cares to read" become treasuries of necessary information to answer any question, no matter how unexpected. Altho intelligence may "follow the cornucopia," as Mr. Pratt phrases it, the latter has not as yet poured out any pronounced wealth in the way of library salaries. Miss Haines, a staunch defender of fiction in libraries to some extent sees eye to eye with Mr. Pratt in his irritation at the discrimination that prevails in many libraries against the novel. But the parting of the ways comes again with his conception of women librarians. Far from being the futile females he depicts them, "the women who are running our public libraries, who are guiding the machinery of great branch systems, or building up specialized departments, or co-ordinating and directing the use of books by children thruout the entire community, are poised and competent, often witty and generally charming. . . . The acidulous vestals of library tradition are extinct."

A PUBLIC WRITING ROOM IN THE LIBRARY

THE custodian of the public writing room in the St. Louis Public Library, Mrs. Lucy Preston Brown, is a part-time member of the Library staff, but also offers secretarial and notarial service at current rates, thus enabling the library to place at the disposal of readers assistance requiring more time than it would be proper for it to give without charge. Mrs. Brown says in her report:

"The writing room this past year has seen many new faces, and we have missed many of those who have made use of it in former years. The new users do not appear to be on the broad line, if one may judge from their personal ap-

pearance, their well-filled brief-cases, and the amount of papers they spread out and work with. Some of them stay only a few minutes, others spend hours in the room and come often.

"Others come only once in a while to 'get a report whipped into shape without interruption' or to form a letter to their superior officers.

"As a notary the custodian is often at her wits end to know what to do with ignorant people in a strange town without proper means of identification. She kept one man waiting a week recently while she sent his photograph to Minnesota for identification by his banker.

"How do these people learn of the room? I was told by one user, 'A man in Florida told me where to come if I wanted to write, and I had no trouble finding the place—I didn't know it was in a library building, but I asked some one on the street where the Public Writing Room was and they told me.'"

THE TRAINING OF MUSEUM WORKERS

AS YET the apprentice course at the Newark (N. J.) Museum seems to be the only one in existence in which most of the training given is practice in museum work, according to the Museum's recent *Apprenticeship in the Museum*, compiled by E. T. Booth under the direction of John Cotton Dana, director. (bds., illus., 58p.) The Otis Art Institute at Los Angeles, which is maintained by the Los Angeles Museum, began a four year course in 1918 which is more a course in art than in museum work. The Rhode Island School of Design at Providence, R. I., began in 1918 to offer "museum work outside of school." For the past two summers Columbia University has had a lecture course in "Museum Administration" given by Laura Bragg, director of the Charleston Museum, which includes no actual practice work. Harvard University began a summer and a one-year course last year. It is primarily for graduates, and is under the direction of Paul J. Sachs, associate director of the Fogg Art Museum. The course is entitled "Museum Work and Museum Problems." It includes lectures on history, organization and administration, buildings and collections, and a small amount of practice in installation and publicity. The University of Rochester announced in the fall of 1927 that it would offer a course the second half of the present school year, to "take up the methods of administering museums with special reference to science museums." Attention will be given to the preparation and labelling of exhibits, the use of museum material in teaching



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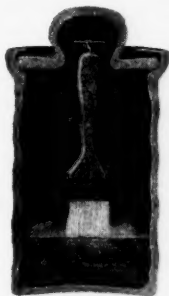
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and the usefulness of a museum in its community. A series of lectures to be given at the Metropolitan Museum of Art under the auspices of New York University last year was abandoned after the first lecture because of the small enrollment in the course.

The Newark Museum has been developed to its present condition entirely by learners, and not by experts in museum work, writes Mr. Dana. "We ventured on an apprentice class in our museum because we were convinced that, being all of us learners, we could find no aid and stimulus to learning more which would be as good as the teaching of the little that we knew. . . . We were convinced, from our study of museums and libraries and of such purely commercial institutions as manufactories and department stores, that the skill or expertness, most needed in a museum today is skill of management, or presentation to the public. . . . In this attempt the presence of a group of young women of college rank, plus, usually, a little experience in life, has been a most admirable tonic to our spirits and an excellent stimulant to the development of ideas."

The third apprentice class of the Newark Museum began in October of last year after two years of experimentation which made it possible to organize a course of study in full detail. The classes were from the first under the direction of the late Louise Connolly, whose studies and experiments furnished a basis for the present course of study. Some of her characteristic notes on the qualifications and accomplishments of the first two apprentice classes are included in *Apprenticeship in the Museum*.

Applications for admission to the apprentice class must have a college degree and must be under thirty years of age. The course begins in October and continues thru June. Apprentices are at work or in class forty-two hours a week, and are treated as members of the staff. Each apprentice receives the same training. The Museum is of no specific type, and its aim is adaptation to the community along lines of applied and fine art, of science and industry. In return for service the Museum pays each apprentice \$50 a month. The course of study is divided between practical work and class work. An apprentice is given an opportunity to do the work of every department in the Newark Museum. After an introductory course in the Newark Free Public Library, six or more hours a day are devoted to departmental work in the Museum with increasing responsibility thruout the course. Class work is limited to four hours a week, and these hours are devoted usually to the discussion of a museum problem. Practical instruction includes such work as filling teachers' requests for material; docentry

with school classes; accessioning, storage and repair of objects; installation of exhibits; preparation and typing of labels; training in office routine; contacts with outside organizations, and service at information desk within the building. Thoro inspection of the museum building, planning equipment for a typical museum, and written reports on such topics as "Newark Museum Principles and Policies" and "John Cotton Dana as Librarian and Museum Director" are part of the class work.

LIBRARY ORGANIZATIONS

Continued from p. 954

Hurlbert, Hibbing; first vice-president, Augusta Starr, Minneapolis; second vice-president, Percie Jones, St. Paul; secretary-treasurer, Gertrude Glennon, Stillwater.

North Dakota Library Association: President, Mrs. Ethel Kuenning, Williston; vice-president, Mrs. Hazel W. Byrnes, Mayville; secretary-treasurer, Gertrude Voldal, Dickinson.

A MEXICAN ASSOCIATION

To SECURE donations of books, equipment or money for Mexican libraries, both private and public, to supplement their annual budgets from other sources, is the object of the Asociación Impulsora de Bibliotecas de México, which received endorsement from the first National Congress of Mexican Librarians held in Mexico City March 15-20, 1927.

The association counts among its membership all persons who contribute in any form to the maintenance of libraries, in addition to the fifteen charter members.

Chief among the activities of the Asociación since its organization, writes Señorita Luz García Nuñez, of the Library Department, Ministry of Education, is its work with children's libraries. It celebrated Children's Day last year by giving the Children's Department in the Ministry of Education two hundred story books, in addition to thirty-two other books for children at other times. Several thousand copy books were furnished the reading rooms of the libraries established in the Federal District for free distribution to the small visitors. Publishing houses made possible by giving generous discounts the sending of one hundred and twenty-eight carefully selected volumes to the first private children's library of the City of Morelia, Michoacan. Subscriptions to an agricultural magazine have been entered for the benefit of some rural libraries, and a collection of books will be sent to the Penal Colony at Isla Maria Madre, State of Nayarit. The co-operation of the Mexican press has so far left much to be desired.

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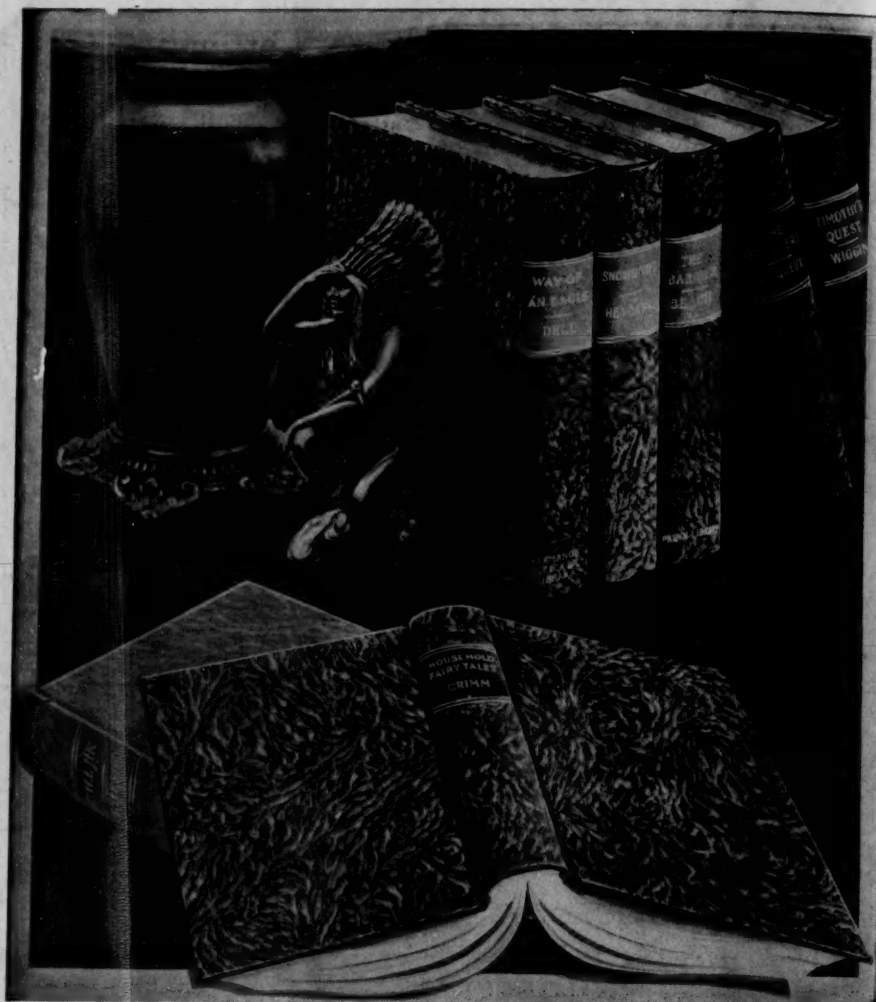
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